## General Discussion of the Budget.

**Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.**—Sir, this is the last budget in the discussion of which I may take part, and perhaps this may be the last of yours also. On such an occasion of parting courtesy requires that words not very pleasant to be said or to be heard have to be avoided. I shall, therefore, use considerable restraint in what I propose to say, and if I use any expression which is unpleasant, you will pardon me, and it is only the feeling, that the occasion requires it, that prompts me to do so. I shall follow the foot-steps of the Finance Member and shall attempt to give a resume of the finances for the last 5 years covered by the period of your administration. The Finance Member admits in his memorandum that this budget might be rightly considered a carrying-on budget, and it reflects truly the salient feature of your carrying-on administration. In the concluding portion of the Administration Report of Cochin for the year 1104 the Diwan has made the following observations. "The financial condition of the State has been gratifying. The net result of the transactions of the year has been a substantial surplus to the credit of the State, and the accumulated surplus has nearly reached the handsome figure of a crore of rupees; to be precise, it amounts to Rs. 93,49,890. No one, looking at the financial out look about half a decade ago, when the total surplus stood at about 30 lakhs, would have entertained the hope that the State would soon reach this level of financial prosperity."

It is also true, Sir, that the gross revenue of the State which was Rs. 76,58,790 at the end of 1100 has risen to Rs. 86,09,100 according to the revised budget of 1105. Now that you are approaching the termination of your regime, it must naturally be a source of supreme gratification to you to feel that you are leaving the financial structure of the Government progressively sound. Indeed the figures do indicate an imposing air of prosperity. But one must be careful to distinguish between statesmanship and the craft of the banking house. The question is, do these figures at all reflect or are they in reality the index of the progressive prosperity of the country and its people and if so, how far you have been responsible for this prosperity. The main items of increase in the revenue are contributed on comparison of the accounts of 1100 and the revised budget of 1105 by

| | Rs. |
|---|---|
| Land Revenue | 1,03,000 |
| Stamps | 50,000 |
| Customs | 3,13,000 |
| Abkari and Ganja | 3,69,000 |
| Opium | 93,000 |
| Tobacco | 60,000 |
| Forests | 1,34,000 |
| Tramway | 1,13,000 |
| Interest | 1,56,000 |
| and Railway | 5,52,000. |

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In a supplementary note attached to the report of the Special Finance Committee I have shown by facts and figures that "in no other country in the world is land so heavily taxed as in India and within India itself Cochin is the most heavily taxed." The Government, by its policy of increasing the burden on the land, is pursuing the policy of killing the goose that laid the golden egg. Does not an increase in the stamp revenue indicate an increase of litigation which is no sign of prosperity? I do not think you had even to raise your little finger to get the increase in the Customs which was the result of the labours of Diwans Sankunni Menon and Bannerjee, the latter of whom put a vigorous fight to carry out the terms of the Interportal Trade Convention. To me it appears an increase of revenue of Rs. 5,22,000 under Abkari, Ganja, Opium and Tobacco is distressing and discreditable. The Forests and the Tramway have, during this year, worked more profitably when compared to previous years, and a perusal of the Proceedings of this Council will show how this result has been achieved. Anyhow that revenue is no index of the people's prosperity and is a drain on the capital resources of the State. With regard to Railway also your effort is only to get the cheque from the Company and attend Railway Board Meetings enjoying the cool heights of the Nilgiris. To your credit goes the high amount of interest due from accumulated resources brought about by methods to which I shall presently refer.

Under-budgetting of revenue and over-budgetting of expenditure (*hear, hear*) has been the rule of your budgets while the actuals told a different tale. The figures to substantiate this statement were placed before the Council last year, and I do not think it will be denied by even the Finance Member. The budget estimates of income and expenditure for the years 1101-1102-1103-1104 and 1105 were:—

| | Income. | Expenditure. | Deficit or surplus. |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1101 | 70,60,300 | 71,98,300 | —1,38,000 |
| 1102 | 70,36,700 | 68,91,000 | +1,45,700 |
| 1103 | 75,21,400 | 73,63,000 | +1,58,100 |
| 1104 | 77,06,200 | 76,10,500 | + 95,700 |
| 1105 | 86,09,100 | 85,36,000 | + 73,100 |

While the actuals for these years respectively were:

| | Income | Expenditure. | Surplus. |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1101 | 71,68,230 | 65,00,537 | 6,67,693 |
| 1102 | 75,38,453 | 66,91,011 | 8,47,442 |
| 1103 | 86,24,293 | 67,14,128 | 19,10,165 |
| 1104 | 91,11,859 | 73,43,722 | 17,68,137 |

The next question is whether you have starved the needs of the people, and in that connection the expenditure side of the budget has to be examined in some detail. The ordinary

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expenditure of the State which was Rs. 65,02,680 in 1100 has risen to Rs. 73,43,722 according to the revised budget of 1105. In the concluding portion of the Administration Report for the same year 1104 the Diwan has stated the position in these terms :—"I wish to express my profound gratitude to H. H. the Maharaja for the valuable advice and help which His Highness has always been pleased to render me in the carrying on of my administrative duties. The Government kept steadily in view the fulfilment of all the essential needs of a sound and progressive administration and were able to promote the general well-being of His Highness' subjects by carrying out a programme of steady expansion of the educational activities, the development of medical relief, the improvement of village communications and highways, a more liberal policy towards Panchayats in the matter of the provision of water supplies, a generous treatment of the depressed classes in regard to special facilities for education and self-improvement, the stimulation of the co-operative movement and closer attention to the improvements of Agriculture and Irrigation." How far, Sir, your gratitude to His Highness has to extend, it is none of our concern. With regard to the latter part of your observation, you know, Sir, that a stage has reached in politics throughout the world that a Government is to be judged by its conduct and not by the fine words of the authorities in power (*hear, hear*);in India especially the Sage at Sabarmathi is attempting to use the force of truth and sincerity to fight material force. How strongly do I wish to have seen you to have translated into action your fine words and sentiments! Besides the salaries, the establishment, the allowances, the contingencies and the other ordinary routine items of the budget every year, the Government has not been able to put up consolidated schemes to contribute to the prosperity of the country even with a flush of money at their disposal; beyond the fact each Departmental Head was satisfied with whatever money he got for his requirements, nothing has been done substantially to benefit the country. The people led a precarious life from hand to mouth and found it a hard thing to supply themselves with food and clothing. The Government seems to have forgotten that the Government exists for the people and not the people for the Government. The outstanding works in your regime are the construction of the Leper Asylum at Adur which was proposed to be handed over to the Salvation Army for better management by them than the Government, the reconstruction of the Enamakkal Bund without any appreciable change in the existing conditions, the improvements to the Mulathura Irrigation System—no doubt very advantageous to the land-owners supplied by that system but to the detriment of the land-owners served by the lower *anicut*,the Cheerakuzhi Bridge, the Girls' High School buildings at Ernakulam, the G. T. School, Trichur, the new canal in Narakkal, the reconstruction of the Panankutti Bridge, the erection of a loco-

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mobile Engine in the water works at Chowwara, the Cochin-Aleppey Road, the Nelliampathi Ghat Road, the construction of several buildings in the General Hospital at Ernakulam, the shifting of the Maharaja's College to Anappara and the schemes for the water supply to Mattancheri, Nemmara, Aylore and Trichur besides a few roads and some minor buildings not very important to be specially mentioned. How far the construction of these bridges and buildings will contribute to the prosperity of the masses is highly debatable. If the Government is sure to assign the lands in the Nelliampathies to bonafide Cochinites, the Nelliampathi Ghat Road will be a source of relief. The Proceedings of this Council will testify that the credit for the water supply schemes for Mattancheri and Trichur rightly goes to the Member for Trichur whose fiery eloquence on the subject brought this matter to prominence, and the Nemmara Scheme was conceived long before you became the Diwan of Cochin. In the matter of Irrigation and works of public utility we stand where we stood five years ago. The State is sick and the House is weary of the hollow schemes of irrigation and water-supply adumbrated year after year and left undone or ill-done to the utter disappointment of the whole country. You, Sir, stated in the second year of the last Council that you "could count a dozen schemes, schemes on which the former Diwans spent much time, labour and attention. Those schemes are ready at hand. The present Diwan has not to seek for schemes anywhere else or to shut himself up in his study and work out schemes. He has to take them up one by one and to give effect to them. But we have to see the exact condition of our finance; and from our past failures, we have to take particular precaution before launching ourselves into any fresh schemes." Sir, what has become of these schemes? Are they still in the throes of labour? It is not evidently for want of funds that they were not undertaken. To me the fact seems to be that the Government in these high matters are guided by youthful inexperience (*hear, hear*) however well-meaning the experts might seem to be. We all know the State abounds in irrigational facilities; they only wait the hand of the statesman and the discerning expert to be turned into economic purposes. During the last five years 1101 to 1105 the total amount seen to have been spent by the Public Works Department comes to roughly Rs. 66 lakhs. Of course under your rulings allowing transfers of allotments, we do not know how the money was actually spent. Are the items mentioned above sufficient justification for such a huge expenditure? In regard to Public Works the expenditure was lavish, and it was being continued from year to year with the same degree of recklessness and extravagance as before. The Public Works Department was given more money than it can spend and much money lapsed every year. Such a spirit of liberality was not

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shown to other Departments. The main items which show an increase in expenditure on comparison of the accounts of 1100 and the revised budget of 1105 are:—

| | | Rs. |
|---|---|---|
| Land Revenue | ... | 39,000 |
| Agriculture and Panchayats | .. | 1,19,000 |
| Forests | .. | 1,64,000 |
| General Administration | ... | 30,000 |
| Law and Justice | .. | 34,000 |
| Education | .. | 2,49,000 |
| Medical | .. | 62,000 |
| Stationery and Printing | .. | 44,000 |
| Public Works | .. | 10,10,000 |

while new headings for Uplift of the Depressed Classes and State Conveyances were opened only last year. During your Diwanship a large number of minor roads was transferred to the Panchayats from the Public Works Department and some minor irrigation items were also transferred to that Department, and there was also an increase in the number of Panchayats. If these facts are taken into account, there was no appreciable increase of allotment for original works under the Panchayats. Much was said in this Council about *Puncha* and *Kole* cultivation, and no definite scheme has so far been considered or much less given effect to. At best the efforts in this direction are spasmodic. With your treasury over-flowing and squeezing the last pie from the ryots even at a time when the crops almost completely failed as in 1102, why not do something definite every year in a systematic way to facilitate the cultivation of these extensive areas?

Turning to industries, the final closing down of the Tanneries and the Potteries constitutes the signal achievement of the present regime. Was it beyond the wit of man to get expert guidance and management to run such well-known industries? The result has been the country has lost the entire capital with the blighting of the golden prospects all so confidently held out by a predecessor of yours. Trade and commerce are at a stand-still and trade in general is undergoing a great crisis. The taxable capacity of the people has gone down and the value of property has also fallen.

The increase in expenditure on Education is mainly due to the opening of the First-Grade College. You, Sir, have stated in your Administration Report that a time has come to give a vocational aspect to the system of education. I say the present system has survived its usefulness and is manufacturing hundreds of graduates and throwing them out to face unemployment. Education must be made to meet the needs of the country. The reputation of the Medical Department has not

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by any means been enhanced. There is an entire absence of any provision for ameliorative purposes in rural parts. If the amount that is alleged to be spent on the Depressed Classes is distributed among them, their economic condition would have considerably improved by this time.

Nothing was written more indelibly upon the whole budget for the last six years than that the Government has more money than they wanted to spend. When the people are suffering; when irrigation is neglected, why should a college building costing 20 lakhs be constructed in a hurry with a view to tie the hands of your successor ? Tested by the relief granted to the country either by way of reduction of taxes or by amenities afforded to the rural areas, the Government has failed and failed miserably to justify themselves.

Outside the budget certain important events have taken place during your regime. You had the good fortune to be in charge of the administration at a time when His Highness our beloved Maharaja completed the 70th year of his age, an event unique, from all points of view of the matter, in the annals of the State. By your professed loyalty you had the unique good fortune to drive the members of the Royal Family to the Paramount Power for protection. What you have done with the Harbour is still a mystery to this House. What representations and proposal you have made with regard to the future of our State to be discussed at the Round Table Conference to be held shortly in London are still unknown to us. Our political future at this rate is rather gloomy, and the Government is sitting on the mouth of a volcano which might burst at any moment.

A word about the Public Service will not be out of place. Bhishma in his advice to Yudhishtira says:—"There is no treasure more valuable to kings than that which consists in the selection and assemblage of good servants." Any discerning statesman will make recruitment to the public service with an eye to the future well-being of the State. Officers are transferred from one branch of the service to another, and no settled policy is anywhere discernible. The public service of the State which for long enjoyed an enviablere putation for efficiency and integrity presents to-day the saddest spectacle of laxity and demoralisation as the inevitable concomitant of nepotism, favouritism and communalism pursued with undisguised and unblushing downrightness. (*Hear, hear.*)

The Indianisation of the services is now a great cry in India in general, and "Cochin for Cochinites" is a similar cry in our State in particular. That, in such a condition of public feeling, the reported advent as Diwan of an outsider, and that

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outsider a European, should be hailed with enthusiastic delight by every man, woman and child in Cochin outside a small clique is an unmistakable indication of popular feeling in regard to the administration of the State during the last quinquennium. This adverse public feeling is due not only on account of the acts of commission and omission of which the Government is guilty but also to the general spirit of the administration. That spirit is described with great precision in John Preed's delightful poem on the Melbourne Administration, and I cannot do better than read to you a few lines from that poem, which, I have no doubt, you will find of great topical interest:—

"And truth to say, it must be pleasant
To be a minister at present;
To make belief to guide the realm
Without a hand upon the helm
And wonder what with such a crew
A pilot e'er should find to do;
To hold what people are content
To fancy is the Government;
And touch extremely little of it
Except the credit and the profit;
To hear demands of explanation
On India, Belgium, trade, taxation
And answer that perhaps they 'll try
To give an answer by and by;
To promise, pause, prepare, postpone
And end by letting things alone;
In short, to earn the people's pay
By doing nothing every day."

You had the good fortune to receive His Excellency the Governor-General of India. His Excellency Lord Irwin, our noble-minded Viceroy, had to tell you, Sir, "that as material prosperity advances the development of administration may not be permitted to lag behind. Good Government spells happiness for people and prosperity both for the ruler and the ruled"; and H. H. the Maharaja was advised "to preserve the standard of the administration" evidently meaning the standard referred to by His Excellency Lord Curzon in the banquet speech here. I am sure you are fully aware of the weak spots in your administration. If anybody wants to save the pitfall, a study of the Proceedings of this Council will be an eye-opener, and you need not be worried any more. Anyhow the time has come for you to leave, and there is no useful purpose gained by a repetition of all that was said here on different occasions.

In recent times you were the first among the sons of the soil to be appointed Diwan and high expectations were made when you took up office. You, Sir, have said in this House, to use your own words, "For the first year a new Diwan receives universal praise, later on the voice of criticism springs up and towards the

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close of the Diwan's term of office he gets very little beyond abuse". It may perhaps be a reflection of the good character of our people in that they keep an open mind in the first year, later on they begin to understand and towards the close they give expression to what is proved. To your credit, Sir, you have in your political life more of negative virtue than of positive good. To you in person the office of Diwan was one of pleasure and enjoyment. I wish you similar luck in your retirement.

**Mr. A. Eachara Menon.**—Sir, we have in this budget the repetition of the old story. We want a forward moving budget and not a humdrum one—not one showing simply the receipts and allotting the same to various heads on a *mamool*. This looks like the budget of an individual unlike that of a responsible Government. The sums are so allotted that one can easily find that when the actuals are struck there will be surpluses. They must have remembered the first principles of finance that one must be able to approximate the income and the expenditure and that in public finance there must be no balance left. If there be any balance, taxation must be reduced. Further the Government have taken to this recourse after having been accused of favouring surpluses, without making adequate efforts to meet the demands of the people. Now, if they are approached for any necessary works, they have the reply ready made 'no funds'. Why this jugglery I cannot honestly understand. They have not proposed for any productive works. They have not budgetted to meet any industrial undertaking. They should by providing thus make it possible for an ever-recurring, never-failing income. Then only they can rightly say that they are in a sound financial position, and not when they hope to depend upon an accumulated sum on a wintry day. We have been praying to the Government that they should with some imagination embark on some enterprise, that the economic distress may be lessened, that the number of unemployed reduced. No sympathetic response all these years.

The Finance Member spoke about Tanneries and Potteries with an inkling in his eye. Is it that this Government has not any connection with the starting of the Tanneries? Sir, was this Tanneries started by a single man? Was it not started with the Diwan as President and was it not done with the approval and under the auspices of the Government? You filed a suit for the amount due to you. Did not the people take shares when the Government took up shares? You now left the people alone. When it was brought to your notice, Sir, that a most unjustifiable tax of Rs. 2-8-0 per acre was imposed on forest clearance on assignment, you interrupted me and asked what the amount was, and when I said it was Rs. 2-8-0, you noted it down and

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the Leader of the House also admitted to the injustice of it. We thought something would be done regarding it. But we had to bear the burden last year. Is it too much for me, Sir, to request you to kindly see that justice is done to us this year at least? It was said in this House that the Diwan was sympathetically considering the case of the Proverthy officials and had asked the Diwan Peishkar to make recommendations. Nothing is heard of it since. Everybody had been made to believe that something would be certainly done, and nothing was done, which amounts, in this case, to a breach of promise.

**Dr. A. G. Menon.**—This was after the deputation of the Village Officers.

**Mr. A. Eachara Menon.**—About sixty thousand rupees more have been budgetted this year under Agriculture and Panchayats. Last year about the same amount was allowed to be lapsed under Panchayats alone. Then why this farce? This is due to the obdurateness of the Government. Ever since the establishment of the Legislative Council we have been praying to the Government begging it and remonstrating with it for the separation of Panchayats from Agriculture and the leaving of the services of the Superintendent entirely for the agriculturists. The Finance Committee, their own body, had unanimously recommended the separation. The Diwan-President had made us believe that our prayers would be conceded. He was only waiting for the Finance Committee report. Now the Government thinks otherwise. This makes one look aghast and wonder what this Government is. What is the object of the administration but to minister to the needs of the agriculturists in all ways devisable? When the fact is that lakhs of rupees were being lost in the State every year through failure to take full advantage of the productive possibilities of the soil. Not a pie has been budgetted for the propagation o agricultural knowledge. How then could the Finance Member carry to the ryots' door the knowledge of scientific methods of agriculture, I wonder. I would that the Government were pleased to inform the House how many people were benefited by the establishment of the Central Farm barring the employees there and in what way. I can confidently affirm that no real cultivator had been benefited thereby. The Panchayats are in a muddle. Chittur, the Cinderella, is without an Inspector also. There is nobody to give them proper advice. Some of them are given civil powers with nobody knowing anything of law to lead them. A person with two spouses will be able to please neither, least of all, a conscientious officer like my buxom friend the present Superintendent of Agriculture and Panchayats. The Co-operative Department is showing some signs of

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improvement. But one does not relish being told that an Inspector was on circuit for 364 days a year. In spite of all this vigilance it is not yet time to say that there is nothing rotten in that Department. There seems to be something radically wrong in the conduct of these societies.

The Government's policy in the Excise Department is one leading to total prohibition. It is exhilarating to find that a decrease is expected in the issue of arrack from the Government Distillery. The Government could be said to have realised their responsibility in this matter only if the consumption of toddy also is restricted. The only way to do that will be by reducing the number of trees marked. The only real objection for this will be that there will be a great loss to Government. It is true. The Government cannot go on without money. It was to make up for this deficiency that we had been from the first sitting of the Legislative Council inviting the attention of the Government to the absence of income-tax in the State. The Government is unwilling to introduce the same. Has it become so demoralised as to play in the hands of those who possess huge masses of unearned income ? It is possible for me to reform to a very great degree in my constituency in this matter by making it impossible to get trees for tapping. But I am as much interested as, if not more than, anybody in that block of Heads in the smooth running of the Government. I wish the Government would consider, and the time has come for them to seriously consider, this matter without fail. It has many a time been said in this House that the Government should undertake to manufacture Stamps and Stamp papers, Anchal stamps and cards. That will give employment to a few of the unemployed. Further it has been succinctly shown by the Finance Committee that it would be a good gain to the Government. Then why this apathy ? The reasons adduced for the lower estimating of the income under Customs should not have weighed with the Government to reduce it to a less amount than was budgetted last year. But this is the trick of the trade the Government is pursuing. There is some complaint about the laws' delay especially in the lower ranks. The judges should be told that their conduct will be taken serious notice of, if inordinate delay is found. I have to bring to the notice of the Government that there is a widespread dissatisfaction in giving the same facilities given to the Depressed Class Boys to such of them who have changed their faith in the Government and Aided Schools. Unless the Government propose to give the same facilities to all the backward classes as well, there is no logic in giving this special treatment to the Depressed Classes who have changed

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their faith. We have been requesting the Government to make Chittur the Head Quarters of the Assistant Engineer of that Division which even though the justice of it had been conceded, has not been favourably considered.

**Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.**—Within about one month, the headquarters will be made there.

**President.**—This was long ago thought of.

**Dr. A. G. Menon.**—Thank you, Sir.

**Mr. A. Eachara Menon.**—The Government do not realise our difficulties. In the Irrigation Department, Sir, I have to thank the Government on behalf of my constituents for making an attempt to alleviate their distress during floods in the Korayar River by budgetting a small sum to begin the work of a bridge over that river. The Government have set apart fifteen thousand rupees for miscellaneous investigations. We had the case of a northern channel to the Moolathura Anicut investigated and estimated at great cost. The Government once said that it would be taken up when funds permitted and at another time said that the investigation was not right or complete. That was investigated by a Senior Assistant Surgeon, (*laughter*) Engineer—I mean. This is being done by a lesser dignitary. The Government ought to be very careful when the monies are proposed to be spent.

We are spending 8½ lakhs on the Railway. It is humiliating to be told that one requires an umbrella not to get himself drenched while sitting in a compartment.

**Dr. A. G. Menon.**—Shame, shame! We had the experience the other day.

**Mr. A. Eachara Menon.**—Will the Government be pleased to see that we poor people who have to come in contact with the outside world are not thus made a laughing stock? We are to have a broad-gauge very soon. I request the Government to consider the resuming of the management of our Railways at all costs. It will give work to a good number of our men. Sir, we have heard here as elsewhere that cars and other paraphernalia have been purchased for the Viceregal visit, and we have also heard of the things being disposed of elsewhere after the visit. Why not we emulate them in this matter also? To me it seems that we have been rather very extravagant during the Viceroy's visit. We, who have only 92 lakhs of rupees as income, have spent about a lakh for entertaining the Viceroy not to speak of very high sums drawn by way of T. A., etc. If this is not extravagance, what is it?

One word more, and I shall have done. Recent researches in the realm of British Indian History have shown how the

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British people who came as traders gained, by pitting one body against another, by means foul and fair, supremacy over three hundred millions of Indians who then could boast of men trained in Military Service, who could hold their own against any foreign military force, assumed the role of Conquerors of India. No change in spite of the speedy evolution of well-nigh two civilised centuries has for good come over that mentality yet is manifest from the *divide et impera* policy still maintained and from the bolstering up of old forgotten and cranky ordinances from the limbo of oblivion. Further does selfishness require a more poignant example than the promulgation of the recent Tariff Bill and the Anti-Picketing Ordinance purely to safeguard the interest of their kith and kin of Lancashire against the just interest of India? Does a more convincing argument than the lathi display necessary to prove that there had been no change of heart and that the Powers are up to anything to serve their own ends? Now, Sir, how do we stand? We have "sunk" in the Harbour large amounts and we are sinking more. We expect a good return and we hope that the schemes will bring "tiny" Cochin State pelf and plenty. Our Harbour makes the rest of the world envious of us. It is fit for a Naval Base. The Paramount Power as of yore will try their level best to belittle our hold over it as much as possible, if they do not entirely wrest the Harbour from us. There has been no time in the annals of civilised Cochin when it required on the part of its Government to deal with the Paramount Power with more care and circumspection. Our Highness is not in so good a state of health as we wish His Highness to be. The whole responsibility lay with the advisers of His Highness especially with the Diwan. It is said that the consent of the Diwan alone will be construed to be the consent of the Cochin Government. What with the efforts of Rajas, what with the efforts of Princes, Ezhuvas and Christians and what with the want of tact and statesmanship on the part of His Highness' advisers, such an impasse had been created that the dame rumour has it that an Englishman of the coveted Indian Civil Service is to be thrust upon us as our Diwan, and Englishmen have not changed their hearts. Therefore, I request you, Sir, from the bottom of my heart to advise His Highness to be satisfied with a native Diwan, even if he is not up to the mark. He has some stake in the country. Do not misunderstand me, Sir. I speak with pain and travail of heart. May God come to the rescue of this Orphan State! May His Highness live long!

I know I am speaking in the presence of the Agent to the Governor-General. I request him through you, Sir, to be kind

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enough to divest himself of his bureaucratic tendencies and bull-dog pertinacity and with John Bull's native uprightness to intercede on our behalf to represent to His Excellency the Viceroy our real state of affairs and come to the help of our State.

I request you, Sir, to convey my felicitations and those of my constituents to His Highness our gracious Maharaja.

**Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar.**—Mr. President, I had made up my mind not to take any active part in the Proceedings of this session. I have already learnt that non-official criticism, whether constructive or destructive, would not have anything to do with the shaping or the working out of the policy of this Government, which has of recent years been showing a steadily growing imperviousness to public opinion, both inside and outside this House. Speaking for myself, I have the firm conviction that it is a sheer waste of public time to enact this drama of the discussion of the budget or the moving of cuts on the various demands that may hereafter be made in this House.

But some of my friends, both within and without this House, would not allow me to take such a step, but would insist upon my voicing forth the feelings of the general public so far as the present administration is concerned. Regard for their feelings is my only excuse and consolation for the step that I am taking at present.

Before I proceed to express the views of the general public on the achievements of this administration—if they are in any sense achievements—I should like to take this opportunity to voice forth the feelings and sentiments of a particular community with regard to certain policies of the Government which vitally affect them. It is with the greatest reluctance that I speak upon this matter. I have always been opposed to pleading on communal lines on the floor of this House. Whenever, during the past two years I have been here, any discussion in this House was taking communal lines, I used to try my level best to prevent it. But to-day I stand convinced that those who adopted such a line of pleading were perfectly justified in doing so and that I was absolutely wrong in the view I had taken of the matter. I must confess on the floor of this House that it is the policy that the present Government has been so carefully following during the past five years that has driven me to this course ; and the time has come when one cannot any longer be simply gazing at and acquiescing in the convenient permutations and computations the Government choose to devise and adopt. This may no doubt suit the convenience of an administration which is straining every nerve to serve its own ends. It is but right and justifiable, under such circumstances, that such an administration should be exposed and

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severely criticised. In doing so, I mean no disparagement to the other communities concerned.

The student of the ancient history of Cochin would have learnt that the Marumakkathayam community of this State has played a very important part in the affairs of this State. This community it was that protected the State from the numerous invasions which it had been subjected to at the hands of the invaders. It would not be an exaggeration if I state that this community defended and protected the interests of this State as if the members thereof were the sole owners of this country. No one can say that to a very large extent this is not the fact. They are probably the oldest inhabitants of the land. They have their peculiar customs and manners. They are governed by a peculiar system of law which, as you know, is commonly known as Malabar Law and Usage. The other communities that we see here came and settled in the land only subsequently.

There is no wonder, then, Sir, that this ancient community should have played a very large part in the administration of the country. Numerically this is even to-day the largest in the State. In point of education and culture, this community is inferior to none other. In point of influence and in point of wealth, this community does not stand behind any other. This community pays the major portion of the State land revenue. Successive administrations in the State have been most ungrudgingly employing the talents of this community in various ways and were according to this community the places that were legitimately due to its members in the several Departments of the State from time to time. This procedure was no exception to this State. The sister State of Travancore, where also similar conditions prevail, will certainly prove that fact. There even to-day, the same principle is being followed, but in the Cochin of to-day we see a different spectacle.

In the highest judicial tribunal of this State, as also in the higher subordinate tribunals, there used to be given till recently a representation for this community. The other Departments of the State also were no exceptions. There is certainly no statutory provision to that effect. It is more or less a matter of convention based no doubt on sound principles, a convention which used to be very scrupulously adhered to by successive administrations in the State. In their hands this convention was as good as a statutory provision, but with you, Sir, it is quite otherwise.

Here I would make a pause. I should like to make it known, Sir, that personally, in criticising and exposing your policy, I do not in the least wish to drag into the discussion any of the several individuals concerned. In fact I have absolutely no

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quarrel with individual cases, and I should not be understood to refer to individuals. Many of those who have been benefited by this policy of yours are very good friends of mine, and I would be the last person to cast any reflection upon their choice or to say anything which may tend to wound their feelings. I am here concerned only with the policy followed by the Government. Whatever I say must be understood to have reference only to the Government's broad policy.

Things have begun to assume a very gloomy aspect so far as the community under consideration is concerned, ever since the present Diwan began to control the policy of administration in this State. At first the change was not perceptible. Probably, Sir, you were preparing the ground only to work out the schemes which you had conceived. But gradually the change in the policy became more and more visible and to-day we see the complete fruition of one of the pet schemes which the Diwan has probably had in his mind when he assumed the reins of Government. The Marumakkathayam community has been thrown into the back-ground completely, never to rise again to the forefront for a number of years. I am not aware of any ungrateful act on the part of this community to merit the administration of this ruthless policy so far as this community is concerned. The Marumakkathayees, so far as I know, have been pulling on on the best of terms with all other communities in the State. They have been and are a set of law-abiding and loyal subjects of His Highness the Maharaja. Unlike the Christian community, which will never tolerate any the slightest interference with their claims, whatever they may be, this community has never carried on any organised agitation to ventilate their grievances. Not because this community is incapable of any organised agitation it is that this community is keeping silent, but it is because they did not want to create any sensation in the land by doing so. What is the result? The present Diwan has been emboldened to pursue his policy of merciless exclusion, and to-day the impartial observer beholds the said phenomenon of the Brahmin, who is after all a minority community in the State, holding all the strategic positions in the several Departments of the State. I am not sure if the Christian community is also not unduly favoured at present so as to placate and silence them, as otherwise they are likely to create obstacles in the way of the Diwan peacefully pursuing his policy.

Sir, if those who are responsible for this state of affairs think that the community in question does not see through this game, they are entirely mistaken. They are fully aware of the existence of this unholy policy. It is unsafe to try human

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patience to its breaking point, and this is especially so when you are dealing with a community as a whole. Sir, you cannot, with any amount of justification, deny that you are not breeding discontent so far as a large section of the subjects of His Highness is concerned. This steadily growing discontent must naturally react upon the peace and prosperity of the State. I would, therefore, earnestly request you to retrace your steps, if you would, and set matters right before it is too late. Equality of treatment is what is wanted. It is exactly that and that alone you have been pleased to deny. You do not care for the growing discontent and heart-burning for which you have been in a large measure responsible. You may, Sir,—I know that—publicly disown that you have been following any such policy. But the complaint is general and well-founded. I shall not at this stage make any reference to the numerous instances which justify me in the general observations I have made. I shall only reserve them for their appropriate time and place. You have amply justified the Sanskrit saying "സജാതോ യേന ജാതേന യാതിവംശഃ സമുന്നതിം". "He alone can be said to exist, whose existence promotes the welfare of his community".

Sir, I now proceed to say a few words on the results of the present administration. The Finance Member has, under the guise of presenting a retrospect of the progress in the general administration ever since the inauguration of this Council, really attempted to give us a summary of the achievements of the present Diwan. The Legislative Council is not going to be abolished for aught I know, and there is, therefore, no reason why this Council at this stage should be treated to a resume of the achievements of the Government under its advice. The real fact probably is that the administration of the present Diwan is shortly coming to a close, and the Financial Member is made to make an illuminating statement of the achievements of this Government. The claim that is made on its behalf is stated thus:—"A period of steady progress to a condition of financial peace, administrative improvement, and material advance". He goes on to add that the surplus to the credit of the State has risen from 41.56 lakhs to 93.49 during this period. He adds with an air of evident satisfaction that this was achieved not by stinting expenditure etc., not by tapping new sources of revenue, but by a judicious and discriminate handling of the State finances and so on and so forth. Mark the adjectives. He would not stop there. He also adds that there have been no rush after big schemes in youthful impetuosity, but, on the other hand, schemes for material progress have been conceived and are being developed with the calm considerateness of a mature age.

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These remarks, though they fall from the mouth of the Finance Member, are endorsed as absolutely true by the Diwan himself in his statement on the budget that he made. These claims and statements may satisfy the casual observer in whose eyes the Diwan may consequently loom large, but to a careful student who can see into the facts, these statements appear to be merely an eyewash.

These claims, if true in any sense, would do credit to any administration; more so to the present administration. A close and impartial survey will show that there is no truth in these claims. One who knows intimately the doings of this Government for the past five years will only be amused to hear such claims being put forward on its behalf. The wind-fall in Customs Revenue, Railway receipts, &c., for which nobody was responsible, have really gone to add to the surplus, in spite of the present Diwan. It is true that expenditure has kept pace with the increase in revenue including Excise Revenue. It is also true that substantial increase is seen regarding the expenditure for the so-called Development Departments. If we are to judge the results from the statement given to us by the Finance Member, the claim is probably true, but when we go below the surface and try to see how these several Departments were being worked, how these large sums allotted to them are being spent, we shall probably see how the judicious spending claimed by the Government is justified. As matters stand now, we have no materials at our disposal to examine and verify the correctness or otherwise of these statements, and though this Council made earnest and repeated attempts to get at a way of knowing these details of expenditure, we were only told that it was only the " infant Council's youthful impetuosity" that prompted us to make such a request.

As for the claim of big schemes that are being said to have been conceived and developed, I am yet to know what they are. If the reference is to the Hydro-Electric Scheme, it was never conceived by the present Diwan. The fact is that unfounded claims are being made by the Government on its behalf. Let us only judge the sum total of the achievements by what is in store for us.

You, Sir, have been responsible for the administration of this State for over five years now. The country is thick with the rumour that you will shortly be relieved of your burden by your successor. If there is any truth in this rumour, probably we may not have another opportunity of seeing you as the venerable Diwan-President of this "Infant Council". It is but fair that we should openly give expression to what we feel about your administration. I know, Sir, that neither flattery

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nor its reverse will affect you in the least. It is a folly to attempt either. Last year at this time I had occasion to remark that you, as a son of the soil, had great opportunities of endearing yourself to all the the subjects of this State who were entrusted to your care. I have availed myself of that occasion to tell you, Sir, how you have failed to utilise those opportunities. I do not wish to travel the same ground over again.

After we met here last year to discuss the budget, an event of great political significance to this State has taken place. I refer to the visit of His Excellency the Viceroy. Soon after this event a rumour has been afloat that your successor is to be a European I. C. S. Officer. The rumour is steadily gaining ground that His Highness has requisitioned the Government of India to place the service of a European I. C. S. Officer at the disposal of His Highness. His Highness is a free agent in the choice of his Ministers. The Imperial Government will only be now and then tendering their advice in very important matters. His Highness might have done this of his own free will, or it might have been done at the advice of the Imperial Government. We need not at present speculate on the probabilities. Perhaps, Sir, the authorities feel that with you the time of great statesmen in Cochin has come to an end, that with your exit from the political theatre Cochin has become devoid of any with like capacities for statesmanship. Perhaps there is no other son of the soil now available who can match your talented statesmanship, so that His Highness has been forced to seek for such high talents elsewhere. Or, can it be, Sir, that your administration for the last five or six years has brought about such an unsatisfactory and unstable state of affairs that the authorities concerned deem it unsafe to hand over the reins of Government to another son of the soil at present? Is it the case that a thorough overhauling of the machinery is necessary so that things may be put right? In either case, Sir, it reflects much upon your administration. It cannot be, Sir, that with your departure Cochin will suffer bankruptcy in statesmanship. I have no reason and for that matter nobody will have any reason to think that there are no sons of the soil who cannot carry on the administration of this State on efficient lines. One cannot be far wrong if one comes to the conclusion that those who hold themselves responsible for the good administration of this State have ample reason to think that, under your care, the administration has become an absolute failure. If this be the correct diagnosis, the people of this State shall have no reason to be grateful to you. Of course I am not in the know of things and I can only speculate, and conclusions based upon speculations are invariably incorrect. I shall,

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therefore, not take upon myself the responsibility of passing any verdict upon your administration. I leave it to the future Historian. However much I may welcome a change of administration, that a foreigner should be requisitioned to set our house in order is a thing to which I cannot reconcile myself. It is deplorable, but who can help it !

**Mr. Thomas Manjuran.**—Sir, another year has gone by, and we are again assembled here to discuss another budget. The general condemnation of this House of the budget and budget makers of the State was pretty sharply expressed last year in the form of a total cut of the General Administration demand. It was fervently hoped that the adoption of such a course would operate as an eye-opener. No such luck. Either because the parties at the helm could not or would not, no appreciable improvement has been made over the unsatisfactory state of affairs existing at that time. In fact 1105 was another year of drift. General decline in the efficiency and tone of the administration has continued. While this tendency to a steady falling off in the efficiency of the administration has been clearly felt for the last few years, this last year 1105 has witnessed certain definitely retrogressive steps on the part of the administration. Final orders were passed on the long-pending and already obsolete Special Finance Committee report. The general result of the orders is mainly to cheapen the higher and intermediate services. The standards of pay laid down by farsighted administrators like Sir P.Rajagopalachari and Sir A. R. Banerji, standards calculated to redeem the State services from the rut of corruption and inefficiency then prevailing, were incontinently departed from and new and definitely lower standards prescribed. While the cost of living has multiplied at least cent per cent during the period of about thirty years in question, our Government, with no ostensible justification, has chosen to reduce the pay of some of the higher officers, some by even 33 per cent. No Government which was anxious to secure efficiency could or would ever do so. Just imagine fixing the maximum pay of the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer at Rs. 650 per mensem. An Assistant Surgeon in the British Service gets more than that. And yet we here are expecting to get a properly qualified Medical Officer to control and supervise our Medical Department on that amount. The Superintendent of Police, responsible for the tranquillity of a million souls inhabiting a State with an annual income of about 90 lakhs of rupees, and a yearly surplus of, on an average, five lakhs for the last few years, is to draw and thrive upon the magnificent salary of Rs. 650. These reductions, in the name of economy, show the general tendency.

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The criminal administration is to be carried on by a District Magistrate on Rs. 400 and the few Magistrates on the royal salary of Rs. 125. Does the Government expect the Magistrates, most of whom have Special First Class powers, to live the lives of respectable and honest men on the pittance of Rs. 125 or are they expecting them to supplement their incomes by other methods? The public has a right to know on whose authority this reduction was made in the pay of the hard-working officers in whose hands the safety and freedom of the subjects are left. The Finance Committee recommended an enhancement of their pay, and this House unanimously accepted it. If the Government wanted to flout both, why was the matter referred to them at all? This is only one instance of many. The orders passed by the Government would be very interesting reading if not so very inconsistent and tragic. Wherever it suited, the Government has played off the report against the Council and vice versa. When both agreed, Government turned down both and went on its own. A more curious meddley of inconsistencies, special pleadings, it is difficult to find in any State document. Some improvement, no doubt, has been made in the pay of the very lowest classes of servants. Even there the whole scheme is halting and in many cases inconsistent and unfair. It is to be expected that the whole scheme will be overhauled at an early date by a more vigorous administrator, should Cochin have the luck to get one. The public is well aware that His Highness the Maharaja was anxious to prescribe as generous grades of pay as called for, under the circumstances. How his desire could not be properly fulfilled is a mystery to the public.

While the emoluments of public servants were being generally cut, this Council was steadily being ignored. Its mandates were brushed aside, ignored or explained away. This is what is meant in Cochin by " associating the people more and more with the administration " as declared by His Highness and His Diwan at the inauguration of this Council. What seems to have accentuated matters appears to be the apparent loss of interest in affairs generally by the outgoing Diwan who has been, for about half the period under discussion, on what may be called sufferance. Himself a long superannuated officer, how could he be expected to take keen interest when he was being kept on practically from day to day, so to say, without knowing when he will have to quit? Whatever that may be, the result has been baneful. Just imagine the highest court in the land being run with two temporary Judges who have been asked to carry on until further orders! Is this not immoral and positively scandalous? Judges on

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sufferance were never encouraged in any land under the British Crown. I may here mention that a Judge appointed to a Court under the British Crown is appointed for life and can never be removed except by the King on a joint address by both Houses of Parliament.

**President.**—I do not think that is the rule. They are appointed only till 60. Of the three Judges of the Chief Court, two are permanent Judges.

**Mr. Thomas Manjuran.**—Mr. Sahasranama Ayyar is a permanent Judge of the District Court. The rule of 60 is only in India. I refer to England. Even in the High Courts in India temporary Judges are appointed for a fixed period, and they are not allowed to drag from day to day. The vacancy caused by the retired Chief Justice is a permanent one. Where is the difficulty in appointing permanent hands? It is even doubtful whether the Chief Court as manned to-day is legally constituted.

**Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar.**—It has been so ruled that it is legally constituted when there are three Judges, whether permanent or acting.

**Mr. Thomas Manjuran.**—Yes, for the purpose so ruled. The same vacillation appears in the lower judicial cadres. The public and the Bar Association may clamour for stiffening the judiciary by the direct recruitment of able men from the Bar. The Council may pass resolutions and even promises may be made by the Government on the floor of the House. Deputations may be received and palaver exchanged. But nothing will be done. About two years ago a gentleman was recruited from the Bar to a District Judge's place, and he filled his office to the great satisfaction of the public. He was forthwith shunted on to some other Department, and no more was ever heard of any further recruitment either to fill the place left by him or any other place in the higher judicial cadres. In fact of all the Judges presiding now in the Chief Court and the District Courts of the State there is not a single individual who was directly recruited to either of the one or the other of the Courts. This is on the face of it unfair and unsatisfactory. Such a state of affairs does not exist in any civilised State. Is it anything extraordinary, if the public are steadily losing confidence in the administration?

These are only a few of the innumerable matters that may have to be mentioned, if a complete list of the more glaring facts were to be made. Obviously a detailed statement is not feasible within the fifteen minutes allowed to one.

The main feature of recent budgets in Cochin has been gross under-estimation of the prospective revenue. This in

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itself may be harmless. But when this is intended to explain the sparing provisions made for various public services, when, in fact, want of resource is steadily pleaded for the non-fulfilment of crying public needs, the method becomes positively harmful. One would think that the main object of the administration is to create a respectable surplus. This may be a means of acquiring kudos as a sound financier, but it is hardly fair if not even mendacious. Monies collected from the public do not become anybody's private property by the fact of such collection. The Collector is only a trustee for the public who pays. Such monies must be put to the best use of that public, instead of being hoarded. And yet, what is it that has happened in Cochin for the last few years? Public wants, like sanitation, public works, elementary education, irrigation, communications, flood protection and agriculture, have all been meagrely provided for in successive budgets. Even the meagre amounts so provided have often been unexpended and lapsed thereby contributing to the swelling of the hoard. We are proudly told that we accumulated about a crore of rupees within the last few years. When requested to spend a part of it for crying public needs, the answer is that the hoard is intended for a rainy day. Big items of expenditure, the Harbour, the Railway, are looming in the distance, and provision must be made for such. This line of argument discloses ignorance of modern methods and conditions. If productive works are to be undertaken, the money for such should not be found from the funds collected from the people for public purposes but met by special ear-marked loans, the interest on which should be paid out of the returns from such works. This is how all civilised countries do such things. If the projected public work is sure to give adequate returns, the loan charged could be readily met as we met the charges on our Railway Loan. If, on the other hand, the question of adequate returns is doubtful or uncertain, the work should not be undertaken. Just imagine building the Panama Canal or a trans-continental Railway from accumulated revenues. You cannot starve the present generation for the supposed benefit of the future ones. If you can make a surplus after fully meeting the public demands, you are welcome to do so. But you are, on your own showing, as confessed by the Government over and over again, unable to undertake many works of urgent public necessity for want of funds. If a hospital is required, you have no money. If villagers want roads, if agriculturists want facilities for drainage or communication, you plead want of funds. If by pressure you are induced to budget sixpence like the reckless Scot who was visiting London, you take good care to spend only threepence out of it and hoard the

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rest. This might appear like exaggeration. But is it? Did not about 80 per cent of the money budgetted for Panchayats for the year 1104 lapse to the Government because works could not be executed in time? What was the excuse? The Panchayats were not functioning properly, and yet when this House and the Finance Committee unanimously pressed upon the Government to separate Panchayat duties from the Agricultural Superintendent, who does not pretend to have any qualifications for the job, the Government flouted both by refusing to do so. Is not the Panchayat system, as run to-day, another farce?

Going on to the various Departments, the most striking thing is the general loss of tone noticeable almost everywhere. Take the case of the Head of the Administration and his office. It is now about seven months since the Government Advocate sent the draft Bill to amend the Tenancy Regulation. The need of some amendment is conceded by all including the Government. How the draft Bill itself came into existence is a very long story well known to every Member of this House and easily ascertainable by others from Council Proceedings. The epic fight the tenants had to put up before getting the Jenmi Member's reactionary Bill, introduced admittedly at the instance of the Government, though the Government does not appear to have meant it to be the great mischief it developed into, well, the fight the tenants had to put up before that Bill was withdrawn by its progenitor is well remembered throughout Cochin. The Government definitely promised to introduce an amending Bill, and after much controversy the Government Advocate was pitched upon as the draftsman. On the strength of that assurance, I withdrew the *Kanom-Panayam* Bill which I had introduced some time before. Now it is well known that *Kanom-panayams* were wrongly construed by the Chief Court not to come within the purview of non-evictability given by name to *Kanom* tenancies proper. It was practically a non-controversial matter. A Proclamation was urgently called for staying the hands of the unscrupulous Jenmies, who, being appraised of the fact of the impending legislation, were coercing tenants to take renewals and make surrenders. The necessity of such a Proclamation was fully conceded by the Diwan as well. There is a clear precedent of the Proclamation issued by the Government in 1087 on the eve of the inauguration of the Tenancy Committee then. And yet has the Government done anything in the matter? At least half a dozen times I either wrote to the Diwan or spoke to him on the matter. I found him sympathetic and anxious to do the needful. I still believe that he wants to issue that Proclamation. But what is the use of good intentions? It

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appears that a thorough and leisurely reading of the draft has been going on leisurely, and that the Government has not yet made up its mind as to the Bill itself. The portion of the draft about this matter consists of barely half a dozen lines. If the Government could not comprehend those six lines drafted by its own Law Officer, without an examination of perhaps a few years, the Jenmi having a free run of coercion and eviction the while, we can easily imagine the efficiency standard of the Government. I cannot possibly go into more details on this matter here. I shall try and draw the attention of the Government by more direct action later on.

This sort of tardiness and general failure to comprehend the necessity of vigorous action resulting in great dilatoriness all round is not the least of ailments from which Cochin is suffering to-day. There is not anything very wrong about Cochin so far. She is somewhat pale and anaemic, and she could do with a little more blood and possibly some iron.

I have already made some reference to the general state of affairs obtaining in the Judicial Department. In this Department, as in many others, there has of late been what is laid down to be unfair discrimination. I am not prepared to go into the merits of the aspersion. But I must say that in Cochin there are various communities who have got their own rights and claims. The partiality of those in power used to take shelter under the shibboleth of efficiency. Whenever the man in power wanted to patronise his caste-men or relation, the term "efficiency" was dragged in to screen him. Numerous acts of sheer nepotism, unfair preference, and even corruption have often been defended on the ground of efficiency. Large communities clamouring for legitimate patronage have been often unscrupulously cheated on the score of efficiency. And yet efficiency is an elastic and elusive term. An over-much use of even the best lubricant may clog the finest machinery. Governments have learned by experience that unfair preference, long persisted in, is not successfully covered by the mask of "efficiency", and that it is safer to be efficient by being fair to all. In a country like India with its various castes and creeds it is nothing extraordinary to find that for some time past the British Indian Government was obliged to dole out offices through the medium of Public Services Commission and other cognate bodies. Even orders of rotation and precedence between communities have been prescribed. The idea is to secure efficiency without favouritism or foul play and without leaving ground for communal heartburn. We in Cochin cannot forget that there are very important communities here, of the non-ruling classes, who have

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not yet got anything like the share in the public services they are legitimately entitled to. Exclusion of particular communities from reasonable participation in the public services does not tend to create confidence in the administration. That we in Cochin do not raise a hue and cry about the exclusion of certain communities from legitimate patronage should never be taken advantage of to deny their legitimate aspirations. I utter this warning because I know that certain large communities, in fact some of the largest and most advanced, have been resenting unfairness in the matter of patronage. It will never do to goad any community into vigorous action on such a matter. The public only wants to get fairplay. It is safer to concede that handsomely rather than make them clamour for it.

I have also to say another word in this connection. I find that the Hon'ble Member for Vellarappilli, who was one of the staunchest supporters of the Bill to amend the Cochin Chief Court Regulation, a sectarian Bill introduced with a view to remove from the Chief Court Regulation the provision for having a Christian Judge in the Chief Court—I find he has turned round and made an honest confession on the floor of this House to the effect that we, members of the Christian community as well as the members of the Ezhuva, Mahomedan and other communities who are not caste-Hindus, were perfectly justified when we vigorously opposed and fortunately succeeded in throwing out that measure. I am very glad to find that light has come to my Hon'ble friend at long last. He has lived to learn the conditions in Cochin. His eyes were probably hitherto blinded because of his violent partisanship of the unholy measure. My Hon'ble friend dropped the confession in the stress of what he thinks is a great injustice done to his community. I am indeed very grateful to the Hon'ble Member for Vellarappilli, for he has to-day justified our attitude on the Chief Court Bill by his able and eloquent speech. If there was not a provision in the Chief Court Regulation to that effect, no Christian would ever enter the portals of the Chief Court. Our indignation against that Bill is thoroughly vindicated by one of the leading caste-Hindu Members of this House. This is indeed a curious world!

I have hardly any more time left. I shall however say a few words about the various Departments. The Public Works Department is naturally one of the most important. The feature of this Department of late has been to allow large amounts to lapse by not fully executing the works budgetted for. The pity is that such amounts go over to the hoard and out of the charge of this House, never to return. If the Department is undermanned, appoint more hands. In any case, let us have the work done and fully done. Another feature of the Department

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is what I may call the want of a definite scheme of necessary works. The needs of this small State are easily ascertained. There should be prepared a comprehensive scheme of public works to be executed in the near future, say within the next ten years, and that programme rigorously gone through. That is the only way of covering the whole field with fairness and efficiency. As it is, the method is unsystematic and unsatisfactory. We find works budgetted for in one year not executed and given up the next years. I suppose the idea is forgotten. Haphazard methods will land us nowhere. There are numerous villages now in the State without a yard of properly made road, in fact, without any sort of roads at all. There are many places where all that is required to open some very useful communication line is to spend just a little money on a culvert or bridge. These matters could receive proper attention only if there is a proper survey of the requirements. I must however acknowledge that a little better attention has of late been given to rural communications.

I must also say that it is an anachronism to leave cheat drains, Irish and others, across our main roads. A little forethought without any expense will cure this. I wish more money was expended on communications, old and new, rather than budget such large sums for luxuries like model Colleges. You may build model Colleges, if you have the money. And even then there is no hurry about it. Let the public be served with vitally necessary things first. About the Anappara scheme itself I shall speak when I come to the allotment for it.

The one feature about the Public Works Department which we appreciate is the investigation of the Hydro-Electric Scheme. It is to be hoped that the scheme will materialise and contribute to the prosperity of the land.

A word as regards Sanitation. It is difficult to understand why there is no organised Sanitary Department in the State. It is high time that a competent Sanitary Officer is appointed. (*Hear, hear.*) We remember the helpless condition that came into existence recently during the small-pox epidemic.

Agriculture is another of the Departments that require much more attention. There should be demonstration farms in various parts of the State and active propaganda work. It is no use having an expensive Department, if you will not properly use it.

I have already referred to the Panchayats. These Panchayats, left as they are to the step-motherly care of the busy Agricultural Superintendent, are worse than useless. Either work them properly or abolish them. In fact Panchayats like other development sections like Agriculture, Sanitation, Industries,

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Irrigation, and a number of others, are apparently run, it would appear, for the sake of form or fashion. I do not think that the heart of the ad ministration was ever in any of these. And yet nation-building and Development Departments should be the first charge of all modern Governments.

I am sorry I have no time to refer to any other Department.

In a nutshell Cochin is rather run down. She is now like a high compression internal combustion engine which by some use and a lot of neglect has lost its tune and much of its compression. The valves have to be ground, tappets adjusted and perhaps the cylinders may have to be rebored. And a general tuning up is indicated. Let us fervently hope that, in the hands of an expert mechanic, the engine will soon start functioning well again. The Cochin engine was only a low compression engine about thirty years ago, when an expert Engineer, Sir Rajagopalachari, was called in from the British factory; he converted it into a fairly high compression engine of first class efficiency; Banerji maintained her at fair efficiency. Succeeding Engineers either neglected or abused the poor old engine, and here we are with a fairly old engine requiring thorough overhaul. I am confident, however, that, with a good overhaul, she could get along quite well still.

**Mr. P. Krishna Menon.**—Sir, about this time with unerring regularity two publications are issued from the Cochin Government Press. Though they are not born as twins, they have many characteristics in common and have a family likeness. Speaking about the likeness, I may say that both are constructed in such a way that they contain more of numerical numbers than letters of the alphabet. Another common characteristic is that both of them are forecasts of the coming year. Another characteristic is that both of them find at the conclusion of the year that their prophecies have been falsified. But I do not want to enlarge the category of similarity. I have only to point out one or two differences. In the first place one of such publications is produced by one who entirely depends upon the manipulation of figures supplied to him. That is no doubt a characteristic of the other as well. But there is this difference that for these figures of the former he takes no credit but in the case of the latter the producer takes credit for the manipulation of the figures. Another point of difference is that in the first case the producer is not congratulated by his colleagues and in the second case he is congratulated by the colleagues as well. One more point of difference which I may state is that, though prophecies are unfulfilled in both the cases, the man whose prophecies are fulfilled most is paid the least while the man whose prophecies are utterly falsified is given a handsome remuneration. I need not say to what publications I refer. The one that I

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spoke of first is only the Malayalam calendar which contains so many numerals but very little of the alphabet. The second that I referred to is the budget. Both are bulky volumes. At the end of the year we find the forecasts have been utterly unfulfilled. Now that is the nature of the budgets that we have been having for the last five years. There is nothing new in the budget that is presented at the end of this year fore-casting the predictions of the coming year. What I wish to emphasise is that a general discussion of the budget unfortunately under these circumstances becomes practically out of the question, because there is no principle or policy disclosed by the budget. If there is any principle at all, it is the want of it and nothing more. Under such a budget I fail to see how I can discuss the general aspect of the budget except by going into minute details about the separate Departments, which, I think, is a subject matter more to be discussed under the proper heads. Anyhow I do not want to entirely ignore that aspect of the budget, but I would only point out that there is nothing new in the budget except what we have been having for the last few years with of course little variations in figures. How these figures or rather forecasts have been fulfilled I want to prove by reference to actual figures. It will be found that, for the last four years,— I am speaking about the lapsed amounts —in 1100 the amount budgetted but not utilised for the year amounted to Rs. 7,93,978—12—5. In 1101 it amounted to Rs. 4,49,258—10—11. In 1102 it amounted to 2,91,501—6—1. In 1103 it amounted to Rs. 6,25,694—14—7 and in 1104 it amounted to Rs. 4,37,425—9—4. As to 1105 the figures are not available because the year is not out, but I have fair hopes of the Finance Member giving the figures in the early part of next year which will by no means be a smaller one than the one we had last year. What are we to infer from these ? So much of the amounts that are allotted for expenditure mostly for works of public utility are kept unexpended. (*Hear, hear.*) If, after seeing this, one were inclined to ask the question in all humility and respect whether that budget was prepared with a view to further the progress of the country or whether it was prepared with a view to hoodwink the public, one would be justified, I say, in deducing from these figures that the budget is prepared more for outside show, by outside I mean people outside Cochin, rather than with due regard to the interests of the people of Cochin. Therefore, I do not propose to go into the several grievances remaining unredressed as referred to by Hon'ble Members on this side, but I shall content myself by saying that better attempt at least might be made in the coming year to utilise the amounts that are budgetted, because this budgetting has been done after a due consideration

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and after giving due weight to the representations made on these subjects. Now one remarkable feature of this year's budget I wish to bring to the notice of the House in general and to the official Members in particular. It will be found that under two heads lump provisions have been made of Rs. 20,000 and Rs. 50,000 respectively, earmarked for being utilised for carrying out works which were budgetted in 1105 but were not completed or not attempted even. Well, that, I submit, is certainly an indication of the Government that those Departments have not been utilising the best possible opportunities given to them to carry out works that they were entrusted with. It is no news to say that these two amounts in lump provisions have been given to the Panchayat Department and the Public Works Department. For my own part I will consider those two provisions as expressing the displeasure of the Government against those Departments for not carrying out the works that they were entrusted with for the particular year. It is not my purpose to-day to detain the House by cataloguing the grievances that have been brought to the notice of the House by the previous speakers. I do not attempt it for more reasons than one, because it is not considered as very courteous to catalogue the grievances of one when at least visitors, nay distinguished visitors, attend a House. It is not my purpose as well to conceal the backyard portion, the innermost room also from their view. In other words, they ought to be shown both sides of the picture, and it is only in that sense, I believe, my Hon'ble friends have taken the trouble of cataloguing the grievances. Again, if things are to go on in this way, as has been related by my predecessors, certainly the future is rather gloomy. I do not know whether the tears of heaven are also falling indicating that we are practically in a distressed condition. But every cloud will give a silver lining that better days are not far ahead. I close my remarks with the hope that there is an indication that it is not far distant on account of the presence of distinguished visitors in the House.

**President.**—The Deputy President will occupy the Chair.

*At this stage (at 1-14 p. m.) the Deputy President took the Chair.*

**Deputy President.**—Anybody else to speak on the subject?

**Mr. C. V. Kuriyan.**— Sir, before I proceed with the general characteristics of the budget, I would like to say a few words on the policy or on the attitude of the Government towards the public opinion in the country. Now this Council is constituted of representatives of the people who express their

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opinions on the measuers followed by the Government and the Government are under an obligation to give full weight to their considerations. But as a matter of fact ever since the inauguration of this Council whatever recommendations or whatever representations have been made in this House, they were flouted. Now public opinion is the real force of a Government. I mean when public affairs are steadily and quietly going on and when the Government is nothing but a continued struggle between the Governor and the governed, the Diwan and some times the people will have to yield alternately. The temper of the people amongst whom the Government rests is the first study of the statesman. Although recommendations are a bit extravagant and sometimes unreasonable enough, still the Government's duty is to know the temper in which those recommendations were made and to act up in the spirit shown by the discussions of the Council. I have nothing to do here with the abstract value of the voice of the people. But as long as representation, the most precious possession of every individual, and as long as opinion, the great support of the state, depend entirely upon that voice it can never be considered as a thing of little consequence either to individuals or to Governments. Nations like individuals are governed by the same methods and principles, by a knowledge of their temper and by a judicious management of it.

It is one thing for you to realise, Sir, that the educational progress of the State has advanced rapidly. It is also true that, by the advance made in education, people have begun to form public opinion about matters which concern them vitally through the medium of papers, periodicals, and through contact with educated people, and most of all the electorate have begun to realise that, with the advent of Council, great possibilities are in store for them, that the Council has afforded them a common platform to ventilate their grievances and to get effectual remedies, to expose faults or omissions of the Government, the several policies of the Government followed by mistake or design or will, and if the Government do not give due weight to the considerations of the House, then a wave of political discontent is sure to rise sometimes above caste, colour or creed, sometimes above certain interests. And true statemanship lies, as I said before, to know the temper of the people, to study the electorate through representatives, to weigh the demands on an even scale, to disregard extravagant demands and idealised aspirations of certain section of people and to initiate reforms based on certain living principles in conformity with the temper and progress of the State.

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The Proceedings of the Council will show that due weight has not been given to the public opinion expressed either by way of resolutions or by way of suggestions made whenever matters of great interest are coming up. In this connection I concede that, in certain respects, the representations made were not reasonable. Now, in these matters, it was the duty of the Government to come forward and say "Well, these recommendations and suggestions are not reasonable and are not adapted to the proper administration." On the other hand, the Government has been scrupulously negligent; for they had not that assertive spirit of saying "that cannot be done." They were assuming an attitude of neutrality especially in communal matters. In communal matters which involved heart-burning and height of passion in this House, the Government ought to have asserted its policy by saying that the proposals or recommendations made by this Council were sometimes extravagant or were unreasonable. Not only that, when questions like the Tenancy Regulation came up and when the majority of the Members spoke against the reactionary Bill of the Member for Land-holders, the Government assumed a strict neutrality, which I say was a gross failure of duty. When the Government knew, as a matter of fact, that the Bill as it stands was reactionary, that it will retard the progress of the country, it was the primary duty of the Government to see that the Bill was not passed. Instead they remained neutral. Again, in certain matters, upon which all people, without difference of caste, colour or creed, had agreed, the Government, I do not know under what grounds, did not give even the slightest consideration it deserves. I refer to the resolution saying that abusive words used in Cranganur should not be tolerated hereafter. I feel constrained to say that it was disgraceful for the Government to suggest that it was impossible for the Government at present to stop the practice. This shows that the Government is not giving due consideration to the opinions of the Council. I have done with the public opinion as respected by the Government at present constituted.

Then again there are certain other facts I may refer in this connection. For the last 11 or 12 years the general administration is devoid of any original progressive scheme. I had occasion to peruse the General Administration Reports of the last so many years, not only of Mr. Vijayaraghavachari but also of Mr. Bhore and Mr. Banerjee. Ancient reports dealt with by Mr. Banerjee and Mr. Bhore are wrapped with suggestions of a very constructive nature, and I am sure that they had done their best to see that such constructive schemes were brought into effect. Not only that, as a matter of fact, in all the administrations we find remarkable progress year after year. On the.

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other hand, I find, for the last eleven years, under Mr. P. Narayana Menon and the present regime, there were no constructive schemes worth mentioning. Even though we find in their reports in glowing terms that such and such schemes will be taken up, there is hardly any real progress made towards the advancement and prosperity of the people. I refer to the hydro-electric scheme upon which I shall have occasion to speak on the motion. Not only that, the Tanikudam scheme, the Karuvannur scheme and the Broad Gauge Railway scheme all these are shunted to an indefinite period of time, so much so, we have lost confidence in the Government's taking it up.

Another feature of the administration which I would like to comment is that there is considerable delay in administration in dealing with files. I cannot account how these delays referred to are brought about. Either because it may be due to the differences of opinion of the several respective Heads of Departments or it may be due to the subordinate staff not actually working and not doing full justice to the work. I also find that in certain suggestions which were constructive enough there are divergent opinions between the several Heads of Departments. Difference of opinion is one ground of delay. Again the Diwan has so many portfolios to go through besides the working of the Council. It is not possible to cope with all the work in hand. In that case I may suggest that, if the Diwan is pressed with everwhelming work, it will be best to bifurcate certain portfolios from him either by constituting a Development Department which will include Co-operative, Panchayats and a little of Public Works also, in which case the Diwan will find ample time to deal with files. It may be due to the enormous work or on account of the laxity shown by the Heads of Departments or on account of the laxity shown by the subordinate staff. It is high time that this delay in administration matters dealing with the files may be stopped. I have my experience. Whenever certain representations are made to the Government, it is very difficult to get a reply. Even though I appeared with a Vakkalath, the Heads of Departments had not the condescension to submit replies, even though the matter under consideration may take time. And again when I refer to the delay in administration I particularly refer to the Finance Committee's report. The Finance Committee's report had its publication and we cannot account how such delay was brought about in the publication of the Proceedings. Then again with regard to the general aspect of the budget. As the other Members have suggested, there is considerable lapse of amounts earmarked for certain purposes. The Government have not taken any action in regard to lapses. Now it is fortunate that the

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Government have given a little consolation to the opinion of the House for they have provided lump provisions for the unexecuted works. That lump provision itself is not sufficient so far as this side of the House is concerned. When a lump provision for the unexecuted works is made, there must be a list of works that were not executed or were partially executed. If a list of such works is also given, then there will be satisfaction for this side of the House that such and such works are still pending with the Government. Such lump provisions as now made will not satisfy this side of the House. In this connection, on account of the increase in lapses and on account of certain works not being undertaken or sometimes left incomplete, it would be worthwhile to institute a Public Accounts Committee for which we have been agitating many a time in this House. The Public Accounts Committee, if constituted, will be able to scrutinise the separate items and will be able to give proper answers for the delay or for the incompletion of certain works earmarked. If the Public Accounts Committee is constituted, then there will be no playing with budget figures. These budget figures may be thoroughly gone into by them. The Standing Finance Committee is given only a short time to peruse. If the Public Accounts Committee submits its report, then the Council will be in a position to know why certain works were not undertaken, for what reasons the works were detained, and all these things may be gone into very easily.

Again not only the Finance Member but the President of this House remarked in glowing terms about the surpluses. So far as I know, in all progressive Governments it is very seldom that surplus is hoarded. For instance, you take England, America or anywhere. Even in progressive States like Mysore and Baroda you will see that surpluses are not accumulated like that. Surpluses are the taxes collected from the people for running expenses which will not be allowed to lie idle for future generation without any use to the present public. That is a serious financial blunder. I may say that such surpluses are accumulated for no good to the public. It may be that the surplus at present has been created since so many schemes are pending. For the realisation of such schemes it will be a better financial policy to float certain loans. The Government will be able to collect a substantial sum which will be invested in productive ways of capital expenditure from the proceeds of which amounts invested may be repaid. Instead of that, we have large surpluses lying idle. In this connection, I may refer to the speech made by the Diwan of Mysore saying that the policy of hoarding surpluses is not sound.

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(*Reading.*)

Out of 319 lakhs budgetted they have provided 90 lakhs for constructive schemes—90 lakhs of capital expenditure. Now considering that figure it will be most disgraceful to find that in our budget a very small sum, a paltry sum, has been provided for constructive works. Now by the provision of 90 lakhs in the Mysore budget they have left a budget without any surplus, and for the growing needs they intend to float a five per cent loan for five years. If a 5 per cent loan is floated, the works contemplated may be finished in the course of five years. Like that, if we have a definite scheme for the works in hand, and if we have thought that we can complete such works as the Hydro-Electric scheme, broad gauge Railway, Karuvannur diversion and harbour, then it will be very easy to float a loan for five years, so that we shall have a capital fund and can utilise it. Instead of that we are hoarding up surpluses, and no money is utilised for constructive works. Then again there is another way of tapping fresh sources of revenue which Government have not been considering. If they have bestowed a thought on the subject, then Government would have at once initiated a Regulation in that line. I think I have been agitating for the levy of a fresh taxation on non-agricultural income in this Council. I may say a fresh taxation is vexatious generally to the non-official side. But I think it proper to levy a fresh tax in this country. If we levy income-tax, it will be a fresh source of revenue and would be better than squeezing poor people. Now if income-tax is levied, we will find ample money to push forward the schemes in hand. And it would be unjust that, when the rural population and agricultural classes are giving their due share, the merchants are not paying their quota or share towards the State coffers. Not only non-officials but also officials may dislike the idea of income-tax. But it is high time that income-tax as is levied and properly levied in all progressive Governments, is realised in Cochin also.

**Mr. C. J. Mathew.**—Sir, the outstanding feature of your administration during the year under review is the passing of the final orders on the report of the Special Finance Committee. You and your officers sat long in deliberation over this matter, and to our mind, an unpardonable amount of delay even was caused on account of this process of scrutiny and double scrutiny. When all human patience was tired out, waiting and waiting without end, and when it almost reached the bursting point, there came out your *orders*, series after series, which, as one could have well anticipated, *satisfied nobody*. The *big, old* mountain "*hastened slowly*" and brought forth at last a *short-*

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*sighted rat* which *scratched everybody*. More *evil is done* by this rat to-day than real good. The less we talk of the process from which evolved out this pigmy rat, the better. Sir, it is not your fault. The mechanics at work happened to be *unfit* men, *physically* and, therefore, *mentally* too to carry out such an all-comprehensive scheme. You should have employed men with broader views and *kindlier*, *cosmopolitan*, hearts, if you wanted the results to be really happy. Sir, the grievances of the State officers, from the lowest to the highest grades, stand to-day *unredressed* by your orders on the Special Finance Committee report. Every one of them feel aggrieved, except perhaps your present Assistant Secretary to the Government. The Heads of Departments are not satisfied with the reorganisations proposed, and each one of them, I am told, is submitting fresh schemes. Subordinate officers are coming forward with petitions, individually and collectively. Prospective salaries of many of the officers are seriously affected. Men otherwise entitled to draw certain increments in pay from the beginning of 1106 are barred from doing so by your present orders. The period of time entitling certain sets of officers to draw the maximum pay of their grades is unduly extended. The pay of the officers who were doing duty under certain long-continued acting arrangement or under temporary establishment is mercilessly cut down. What is worse, they are even called upon to refund. The case of the menial servants is completely overlooked. Foresters and Parvathiyams and such category of officers have never come in for any consideration whatsoever. The P. W. D. Overseers are graded in such a ridiculous way so as to place some of them under a lower grade of pay than the Panchayat Overseers. I shall discuss at length all these cases as each Department comes up for voting and point out then the injustice done in each instance. Suffice it to state now that the orders are far from being satisfactory. Officers and their prospects are *affected adversely*, so far as the generality of them are concerned. This is indeed a very great pity! You have got plenty of time still to mend matters. Do redress legitimate grievances, and hard cases may be sympathetically reconsidered.

Sir, I wish to lay special emphasis on one matter. By your orders, you have very kindly accorded sanction to such of the officers of the State, who have already put in 25 years service, to draw the maximum pay of their grades. This is very generous indeed! But your orders have confined this great boon to such of those officers only who happened to complete their 25th year of service on a particular date, that is to say, the date on which your orders are to take effect. "Quality of mercy is not strained"; and I, therefore, pray you, Sir, that your

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orders in this connection may be made universally applicable to all times, that is to say, all officers may be made eligible to draw the maximum pay of their grade from the dates they complete their 25th year of service. There will be only a very few cases like this, where officers may have to go without being able to draw the maximum salary of their grades, even after completing their 25th year of service. These are very hard cases indeed, and they demand your immediate and kind consideration.

I do not during this occasion propose to take Department after Department and criticise. But I may say a word in connection with "lapses" in the P. W. D. which some of the Members have already referred to. The general trend of argument against "lapses" went in the direction of blaming the Department concerned for inactivity and for not possessing any definite scheme or programme of works to be undertaken one after the other, during the course of the year. To a very great extent this is true. But it will be all the same a serious mistake to throw all the blame on the shoulders of the Chief Engineer alone. There is another Department which is in a greater measure responsible for these lapses, and that is the Land Revenue Department. The Diwan Peishkar and his officers are very lax indeed in the matter of land acquisition proceedings. They take unduly long time and cause inexcusable delay in handing over possession of sites to the P. W. D. after which alone the Chief Engineer could commence his activities. Most of these lapses are the results of the delay in land acquisition. This is a very serious handicap, a very great obstacle, standing in the way of the Chief Engineer in prosecuting works in time. There is again another agency that causes unnecessary delay. Whenever a certain site is marked out or selected for constructing a road or a tank or a building, sure as anything, there pour forth petitions from private persons who are supposed to be aggrieved some way or other by the execution of the proposed work in that particular site in question. Most of these petitions contain frivolous or imaginary grievances only, but yet they have to be enquired into. When one petition is disposed of, another comes in. All this means delay. Therefore, in my opinion, these frivolous petitions and the laxity of the Revenue Department in the matter of land acquisition proceedings are to a very considerable extent the main causes for "lapses" in the P. W. D. Government ought, therefore, to do all they can to remove such obstacles from the way of the Chief Engineer, and then the so-called "lapses" are bound to decrease.

One word more in connection with the general sanitary conditions of the State, and I am done. *Contagious diseases, are*

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In the increase. Small-pox was prevailing for a long time at Ernakulam and its suburbs. Now it is spreading out like wild fire at Irinjalakkuda. Our rural parts are also seriously affected with this dangerous disease. The general health of the country is, therefore, quite unsatisfactory. I consider it is due to want of proper general sanitation. Thare is no Health Department in our country as in other civilised places. We badly want an Health Officer and a few subordinate medical officers attached to him to look after the general conditions of health and sanitation throughout the State. They could do much by way of propaganda work among the rural population, besides setting out the country-sides *neat* and *clean*. The filthy atmosphere of some of our country-sides to-day is abominable. They require a thorough over-hauling from the point of view of general sanitation. I, therefore, press upon the Government to lose no time whatsoever to form an Health Department all at once, making them directly responsible for the general healthy condition of the State. The Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer has hardly any time left to go into details. So an independent Health Department is a great necessity.

മിസ്റ്റർ എ. കെ. കുഞ്ഞുമൊയ്തീൻ—സർ, നമ്മുടെ ഗവമ്മെണ്ടു് കൊടുങ്ങല്ലൂരിനോടു് അശേഷം ദയവില്ലാതെയും മറുമാണു് പെരുമാറിവരുന്നതെന്നു് ഞാൻ കഴിഞ്ഞ രണ്ടു കൊല്ലക്കാലം ഇവിടെ മുറവിളികൂട്ടിയതിന്റെ ഫലമായി നമ്മുടെ ഗവമ്മെണ്ടിന്റെ മനഃസ്ഥിതിക്കു് അല്പമൊരു മാറ്റം സംഭവിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടെന്നു് സന്തോഷസമേതം പ്രസ്താവിക്കാനാണു് ഞാൻ ഭാവിക്കുന്നതു്. (*Hear, hear*) അതായതു് കൊടുങ്ങല്ലൂർ ബഡ്ജറ്റു് പ്രത്യേകമൊരു ബഡ്ജറാക്കിവെച്ചു്—ഞാൻ കഴിഞ്ഞ ഒരവസരത്തിൽ പറഞ്ഞതുപോലെ, ബ്രിട്ടീഷുപാർല്യമെണ്ടിലെഇന്ത്യൻബഡ്ജറിനെ അനുകരിച്ചു കൊച്ചി കൌൺസിലിൽ കൊടുങ്ങല്ലൂർ ബഡ്ജറു്—അതിനോടു പെരുമാറിവന്നിരുന്ന നയംഇപ്പോൾ ഭേദപ്പെടുത്തി ജനറൽബഡ്ജറിലെ ഓരോ ഡിമാൻറും ആലോചനക്കെടുത്തതിനു ശേഷം കൊടുങ്ങല്ലൂർ ബഡ്ജറിലെ അതെ ഡിമാൻറു ആലോചനക്കെടുക്കാമെന്നു സമ്മതിച്ചു അപ്രകാരം അജ്ഞൻറ തെയ്യാർ ചെയ്തിരിക്കുന്നതിൽഞാൻ സന്തോഷിക്കയും ഒന്നാമതായി ഗവമ്മെണ്ടിനെ അഭിനന്ദിക്കയും ചെയ്യുന്നു.

കൊടുങ്ങല്ലൂരിൽ ഗതാഗതസൌകര്യങ്ങളില്ലാതെയാണു് ജനങ്ങൾ അധികമായി കഷ്ടപ്പെടുകയും ബുദ്ധിമുട്ടുകൾ അനുഭവിക്കയും ചെയ്യുന്നതെന്നു ആ നാട്ടിനെപ്പറ്റി അറിയാവുന്ന ഏവർക്കും എൻറെ മുടങ്ങാതെയുള്ള മുറവിളികേട്ടിട്ടുള്ളവർക്കും അറിവാൻസാധിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടു്. ഈ സംഗതികളെല്ലാം പരമാർത്ഥമാണെന്നും അതിനായി ഞാൻ ഇവിടെ കണ്ണുക്ഷോഭംചെയ്തതു് വനരോദനമായിക്കലാശിച്ചിട്ടില്ലെന്നും ഈ വകക്കു് ₹ ൦ ,൦ ൦ ൦ രൂപായുടെ ഒരു

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സ്പെഷ്യൽ അലോട്ടുമെന്റ് അനുവദിച്ചിട്ടുള്ളതുകൊണ്ടു മനസ്സിലാക്കാം. അതു അല്പം ഒരു ആശ്വാസമായി ഞാൻ കരുതുന്നു. ഈ സംഗതിയിൽ കൊടുങ്ങല്ലൂർക്കാരായ ഞങ്ങൾക്കുള്ള ചാരിതാർത്ഥ്യം ഇവിടെ രേഖപ്പെടുത്തുകയും ഗവൺമെണ്ടിന്റെ അവസരോചിതമായ ഈ നയംമാറ്റത്തിൽ ഗവൺമെണ്ടിനെ ഞാൻ അഭിനന്ദിക്കയും ചെയ്യുന്നു. ഇതേ അവസരത്തിൽ എനിക്കു ഒന്നു പറയാനുള്ളതു് ഈ കൌൺസിലിന്റെ ജീവിതകാലത്തു് കൊടുങ്ങല്ലൂർ വിഷയകമായി ഏതെങ്കിലും ഒരു കാര്യത്തിൽ നമ്മുടെ ഗവൺമെണ്ടിനെ അഭിനന്ദിക്കാൻ എന്റെ നാവിനു് സാധിക്കുമോ എന്നു് ഞാൻ സംശയിച്ചിരുന്നു എന്നുള്ളതാണു്. ഈ രണ്ടു സംഗതിയിലും കൊടുങ്ങല്ലൂരിന്റെപേരിൽ ഈ ഗവൺമെണ്ടിനെ അഭിനന്ദിക്കാൻ സാധിച്ചതിൽ എനിക്കു് അതിയായ സന്തോഷമുണ്ടു്. മറ്റു ചില കാര്യങ്ങളിലും ഗവൺമെണ്ടു് ശ്രദ്ധിക്കുന്നുണ്ടെന്നു് ചിലപ്രവർത്തികളാൽ മനസ്സിലാകുന്നുണ്ടു്. അതായതു് ചില കാര്യങ്ങളിൽഞാൻ ചെയ്തിട്ടുള്ള നിർദ്ദേശങ്ങളേയും അപേക്ഷകളേയും ഗവൺമെണ്ടു് ചെവികൊടുത്തു കേട്ടിട്ടുണ്ടെന്നെങ്കിലും പറയാറായിട്ടുണ്ടു്. ഉദാഹരണമായി, മേടം സമ്മേളനത്തിൽ,കൊടുങ്ങല്ലൂരിൽ പകർച്ചവ്യാധി വല്ലാതെ വ്യാപിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടെന്നും അതിന്റെ പരിഹാരത്തിനായിഎന്തെങ്കിലും ചെയ്യണമെന്നുമുണ്ടായ എന്റെ അപേക്ഷയനുസരിച്ചു് ഉടനടി ഒരു വാക്സിനേറ്ററേയും ഒരു ഡാക്ടറേയും സ്പെഷ്യൽ ഡ്യൂട്ടിയിൽ നിയമിച്ചതിലും എന്റെ സമ്മതിദായകന്മാർക്ക് സന്തോഷമുണ്ടു്. അതുപോലെതന്നെ, കഴിഞ്ഞകൊല്ലം ബഡ്ജറ്റു സമ്മേളനത്തിൽ അഗ്രിക്കൾച്ചർ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെണ്ടിലെ ഡിമാൻറ് ആലോചനയ്ക്കുവന്നപ്പോൾ കൃഷിക്കായ്ത്തിൽ സാരമായ യാതൊരു ഉപദ്രവവും മാർഗ്ഗകയും കാണിച്ചുകൊടുക്കാൻ സാധിക്കാത്തടത്തോളംകാലം കൊടുങ്ങല്ലൂരിൽ അതിലേക്കായി ഒരു കൃഷി ഇൻസ്പെക്ടരേയും സ്റ്റാഫിനേയും വലിയ പണച്ചിലവുചെയ്തു വെച്ചുകൊണ്ടിരിക്കുന്നതിൽ യാതൊരു പ്രയോജനവും ഔചിത്യവും ഇല്ലെന്നും കൊടുങ്ങല്ലൂരിലെ അത്യാവശ്യകായ്ത്തുകൾക്കു ചിലവിടാൻതന്നെ ഫണ്ടു ഇല്ലാതെ അരിഷ്ടിച്ചു കഴിച്ചുകൂട്ടുന്ന സ്ഥിതിക്കു് ഈ ഇൻസ്പെക്ടരുടേയും സ്റ്റാഫിന്റേയും ആവശ്യമില്ലെന്നും ഞാൻ ഉൽബോധിച്ചതനുസരിച്ചു് ഇപ്പോൾ ഇവിടെ സമുച്ചിച്ചിരിക്കുന്ന ബഡ്ജറ്റിൽ അവരുടെ ശമ്പളത്തിനുവക കൊള്ളിച്ചു കാണുന്നില്ല. കൃഷിപ്രധാനമായ ഒരു രാജ്യത്തു് ഒരു കൃഷി ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെണ്ടു് വേണ്ടതും കൃഷിയുടെ അഭിവൃദ്ധിക്കായി ആ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെണ്ടു് പരിശ്രമിക്കേണ്ടതുമാണു്. എന്നാൽ ആ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെണ്ടുകൊണ്ടു് രാജ്യത്തിനുണ്ടാകേണ്ട ഗുണം രാജ്യത്തിൽ ഉണ്ടാക്കുവാൻ ആ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെണ്ടിനു ശേഷിയില്ലെങ്കിൽ അതിനായി ചിലവിടുന്നചണം നഷ്ടമാകുവാനും, ആ പ്രവൃത്തി അസംബന്ധവുമാണു്.

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ഗവൺമെൻറു, കൃഷിയുടെ അഭിവൃദ്ധിക്കായി യാതൊന്നും ചെയ്യേണ്ട തില്ലെന്നല്ലാ ഞാൻ പറയുന്നതു്. കൃഷി രാജ്യമായ കൊട്ടങ്ങല്ലൂരിൽ കൃഷി സംബന്ധമായി വരുത്തേണ്ട പരിഷ്കാരങ്ങളെ നിർദ്ദേശിക്കാൻപോലും ശക്തിയില്ലാതിരിക്കുന്ന ഒരു ഡിപ്പാർട്ട്മെൻറു തീച്ചയായും ആവശ്യമില്ല. അവിടെ ഇതു നിലത്തൽ ചെയ്യുന്നതുകൊണ്ടു് ഇതേവരെ യാതൊരു പ്രയോജനവും ഇല്ലാതെ കൃഷി ഇൻസ്പെക്ടർ സ്ഥാനമായി ചിലവുചെയ്തിരുന്ന 7000 ൽ പരം രൂപാ കൊട്ടങ്ങല്ലൂരിലെ മറ്റു പ്രധാനാവശ്യങ്ങൾക്കു വിനിയോഗിക്കാൻ സൌകര്യം ലഭിക്കുന്നു. ഇക്കാര്യത്തിലും എൻറെ നിർദ്ദേശം അദരിച്ചു പ്രവർത്തിച്ചതിൽ ഞാൻ ഗവൺമെണ്ടിനെ അഭിനന്ദിക്കുന്നു. ഇപ്രകാരം കൊട്ടങ്ങല്ലൂർ നിയോജകമണ്ഡലത്തിൻറെ പ്രതിനിധി എന്ന നിലയിൽ ഞാൻ കൌൺസിലിൽ ചെയ്തിട്ടുള്ള പല നിർദ്ദേശങ്ങളെയും നിവേദനങ്ങളെയും ഗവൺമെണ്ടു ശ്രദ്ധിക്കുന്നുണ്ടെന്നു കാണുന്നതിൽ എനിക്കു വളരെ സന്തോഷം ഉണ്ടു്.

ഇനി എനിക്കു പറയാനുള്ളതു് ഇപ്പോൾ പ്രത്യേകമായി അനുവദിച്ചിരിക്കുന്ന അമ്പതിനായിരം രൂപാ കടലാസ്സിൽ കാണിച്ചതു കൊണ്ടുമാത്രം തൃപ്തിപ്പെടുകയില്ലെന്നാണു് ഇവിടെ ചില മെമ്പർമാർ ബഡ്ജറ്റു നിരൂപണാവസരത്തിൽ ബഡ്ജറ്റിൽ ഒരു പണിക്കായി കൊള്ളിക്കുന്ന തുക മതിയാകുന്ന പണിക്കായി ചിലവുചെയ്യുന്നുവെന്നും മറ്റു ചില തുകകൾ ലാപ്സാക്കിക്കളയുന്നുവെന്നും ഗവൺമെൻറിൻറെ അനാസ്ഥാനയത്തെ കഠിനമായി അധിക്ഷേപിക്കുണ്ടായി. തീച്ചയായിട്ടും ആ നയം കഠിനമായി ആക്ഷേപിക്കേണ്ടതുതന്നെ. ബഡ്ജറ്റിൽ പണം അനുവദിക്കുന്ന ഓരോ പണിയും അതാതുകൊല്ലംതന്നെ ചെയ്തുതീർക്കാൻ ഗവൺമെൻറു നിർബ്ബന്ധിക്കയും അതിനായി ശ്രമിക്കയും ചെയ്യേണ്ടതു് അത്യാവശ്യമാണു്. (*Hear, hear.*) അതുകൊണ്ടു് ഈ 80,000 രൂപാക്കു അനുവദിച്ചിട്ടുള്ള പണി ഫാമ്പിൽ തന്നെ ചെയ്തുതീർത്തു് കൊട്ടങ്ങല്ലൂരിൻറെ നേരെ ഗവൺമെൻറു പ്രദർശിപ്പിച്ചിരിക്കുന്ന കരുണാപൂർവ്വമായ മനഃസ്ഥിതിയെ പരിപൂർണ്ണഫലപ്രാപ്തിയിലെത്തിക്കണമെന്നു ഉൽബോധിപ്പിക്കാനും കൂടി ഈ സന്ദർഭത്തെ ഞാൻ വിനിയോഗിക്കുന്നു. കഴിഞ്ഞ രണ്ടുകൊല്ലവും ഗവൺമെൻറു കൊട്ടങ്ങല്ലൂരിനോടു കാണിക്കുന്ന അനാശാസ്യനയത്തെ എനിക്കു കഠിനമായി അധിക്ഷേപിക്കേണ്ടിവന്നു. ഇത്തവണ ഇപ്രകാരം കുറെ ഒക്കെയെങ്കിലും അഭിനന്ദിക്കാനാണു് സംഗതിയായതു്. മേലിലും കൊട്ടങ്ങല്ലൂരിൻറെ അഭിവൃദ്ധിക്കായി കഴിയുന്നതെല്ലാം ചെയ്തുകൊണ്ടിരിക്കണമെന്നും രാജ്യത്തിലെ ജനങ്ങളുടെ പ്രതിനിധികളുടെ നിർദ്ദേശങ്ങളെയും നിവേദനങ്ങളെയും കാര്യമായി ഗണിച്ചു രാജ്യശാസനയ്ക്കുവേണ്ടി അവ നടപ്പിൽ

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ച്ചിൽ വരുത്തണമെന്നും പ്രത്യേകമായി ഞാൻ അഭ്യർത്ഥിച്ചുകൊള്ളുന്നു (*Hear, hear.*) സർവ്വമെൻറ് കൊടുങ്ങല്ലൂരിനെ ഒരു പ്രത്യേക വിഭാഗമായി ചിലകാര്യങ്ങളിൽ കരുതുന്നതുകൊണ്ടാണ് അതിനെ പ്രതിനിധീകരിക്കുന്ന എനിക്ക് എല്ലായ്പ്പോഴും അവിടത്തെ കാര്യത്തെപ്പറ്റി പ്രത്യേകം പറയേണ്ടിവരുന്നത്.

ഫൈനാൻസു മെംബർ, അദ്ദേഹത്തിൻെറ പ്രസംഗത്തിൽ കൊടുങ്ങല്ലൂർ ധനസംബന്ധമായ കാര്യത്തിൽ വളരെ കഷ്ടതരവും ഭയങ്കരവുമായ നിലയിലാണിരിക്കുന്നതെന്നു് കഴിഞ്ഞകൊല്ലത്തെപ്പോലെ ഇപ്പോഴുംപറഞ്ഞിരിക്കുന്നു. ഇതിനുംപുറമെഞാൻഇവിടെ പറഞ്ഞിട്ടുള്ളതൊക്കെ ശരിയാണെന്നുഅത്ഥംവരത്തക്കനിലയിൽ കൊടുങ്ങല്ലൂർ മെംബർ കൊണ്ടുവരുന്ന നിവേദനങ്ങളും അഭിപ്രായങ്ങളും അറിയാൻ ആഗ്രഹിക്കയും അദ്ദേഹം കൊണ്ടുവരുന്നഅഭിപ്രായങ്ങളേയും നിവേദനങ്ങളേയും സർവ്വമെൻറ് ഗാഢമായി ആലോചിക്കുന്നതാണെന്നു പ്രസ്താവിക്കയും ചെയ്തുകാണുന്നതിലും സന്തോഷമുണ്ട്. കൊടുങ്ങല്ലൂരിനെ ഈ വിഷമാവസ്ഥയിൽ നിന്നു രക്ഷിപ്പാൻ ഉപയുക്തമായ പല നിർദ്ദേശങ്ങളും ഞാൻ കൌൺസിലിൽ കൊണ്ടുവരികയുണ്ടായിട്ടുണ്ട്.

ഉയർന്ന ഗ്രേഡിലുള്ള ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാരെ ഇപ്പോൾ കൊടുങ്ങല്ലൂരിൽ നിയമിക്കുന്നില്ലെന്നും പെൻഷ്യൻ തുക കണക്കിലേറെയില്ലെന്നും മറും ചില നിർദ്ദേശങ്ങൾക്കു ഫൈനാൻസു മെംബർ സമാധാനം പറഞ്ഞിരിക്കുന്നു. ഏതുനിലയിൽ പറയുകയാണെങ്കിലും നമ്മുടെ സർവ്വമെൻറ് കഴിഞ്ഞ കൊല്ലങ്ങളെ അപേക്ഷിച്ചും ഇക്കൊല്ലം ഒരു പ്രത്യേക മനഃസ്ഥിതി പ്രദർശിപ്പിക്കാൻ തയ്യാറായിരിക്കുന്നതു പ്രസ്താവയോഗ്യമാണു. ചുങ്കത്തിൻെറ ഇനത്തിലും മറുചിലകാര്യങ്ങളിലും ഫൈനാൻസു മെംബർ ഒഴിഞ്ഞുമാറി നില്ക്കയല്ലാതെ ഒരു സമാധാനംപോലും പറഞ്ഞു കാണുന്നില്ല. ചുങ്കത്തിൻെറ ഓഹരി കൊടുങ്ങല്ലൂക്കു കൊടുക്കാമെന്നുവെച്ചാൽതന്നെ കൊടുങ്ങല്ലൂർ ബഡ്ജറിലെ വിഷമതകഠം ഒട്ടുമുക്കാലും നീങ്ങുന്നതാണു്.

എനിക്കു ഇനി പ്രധാനമായി പറയേണ്ടതു കൊടുങ്ങല്ലൂരിനെ ഈ നിലയിൽ വച്ചുകൊണ്ടിരിക്കേണ്ട ഒരാവശ്യവുമില്ലെന്നാണ്. അതായതു ഒരു പ്രത്യേകവിഭാഗമായിട്ടു വെക്കുന്നതിലാണ ഈ വിഷമതകഠംക്കും ഭയാശങ്കകഠംക്കും കാരണമാകുന്നതു.

സാധാരണയായി കുട്ടികളെ വിദ്യാലയങ്ങളിൽ പഠിപ്പിച്ചുവരുന്നതും ഭരണവിഷയത്തിൽതന്നെ പ്രസ്താവിച്ചു കാണുന്നതും മറു താലൂക്കുകളോടൊപ്പം കൊടുങ്ങല്ലൂരിനെയും കൊച്ചിയുടെ ആറു താലൂക്കുകളിൽ ഒരു താലൂക്കായിട്ടാണു് കണക്കിൻെറ കാര്യത്തിലും അതേവിധത്തിൽതന്നെ കരുതുവാൻ എന്താണു് വിരോധമെന്നു ഞാൻ ചോദിക്കുന്നു. കൊച്ചിയും കൊടുങ്ങല്ലൂരും തമ്മിൽ

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ഒരു ഉടമ്പടി ഉണ്ടായിരുന്നുവെന്നു കേട്ടുകേൾവിയുണ്ട്. അതിലെ കാര്യങ്ങൾ എന്തൊക്കെയാണെന്നു അറിഞ്ഞുകൂടാ. കൊടുങ്ങല്ലൂരിന്റെ അഭിവൃദ്ധിയെ ഉദ്ദേശിച്ചു ഒരാൾ ഒരഭിപ്രായമൊ നിർദ്ദേശമോ ഈ കാര്യത്തിൽ കൊണ്ടുവരണമെങ്കിൽ കൊച്ചിയും കൊടുങ്ങല്ലൂരും തമ്മിലുള്ള യഥാർത്ഥ ബന്ധമെന്താണെന്നു് അറിയാതെയാതൊരു നിവൃത്തിയുമില്ല. ഈ കാര്യത്തെപ്പറ്റി പലഅവസരങ്ങളിലും ഞാൻ ഗാഢമായി ചിന്തിക്കയും അന്വേഷിക്കയും ചെയ്തിട്ടുണ്ട്. ഒന്നും അറിയാൻ കഴിഞ്ഞിട്ടില്ല. കൊച്ചിയുംകൊടുങ്ങല്ലൂരും തമ്മിലുള്ള യഥാർത്ഥ ബന്ധം എന്തു? വല്ല ഉടമ്പടിയും ഉണ്ടായിട്ടുണ്ടൊ? ഏതൽവിഷയകമായി ഞാൻ കൌൺസിലിൽ ചില ചോദ്യങ്ങൾ ചോദിക്കയുണ്ടായി. സ്റ്റെയിറ്റ്മാന്വൽ നോക്കുവാനാണ് ഉത്തരം. സ്റ്റെയിറ്റ്മാന്വൽ നോക്കിയിട്ടു മുമ്പറഞ്ഞിട്ടുള്ളതിൽ കൂടുതലായി യാതൊന്നും കണ്ടുകിട്ടിയില്ല.

*The House rose for lunch at 2' past 2 p. m. and met again at 3 p. m. with the Deputy President himself in the Chair.*

മിസ്റ്റർ എ. കെ. കുഞ്ഞുമൊയ്തീൻ—ഉടമ്പടിയിലെ നിശ്ചയങ്ങൾ എന്തെല്ലാമായിരുന്നാലും ഇന്നത്തെകണക്കുവയ്പുകൊണ്ടു കൊടുങ്ങല്ലൂരിലെ ജനങ്ങളും നമ്മുടെ ഗവൺമെൻറും തന്നെയും വളരെ ബുദ്ധിമുട്ടും ക്ലേശങ്ങളും അനുഭവിക്കുന്നുണ്ട്. അതിനാൽ ഒന്നാമതായി വേണ്ടതു് വെവ്വേറെയുള്ള കണക്കുവയ്പു് വേണ്ടെന്നു വച്ചു് കൊടുങ്ങല്ലൂരിലെ ആയവ്യയകണക്കുംകൂടെ ജനറൽ ബഡ്ജറ്റിൽ ചേർത്തു് കൊച്ചിയിലെ മറ്റു താലൂക്കുകളോടൊപ്പം കൊടുങ്ങല്ലൂരിനെയും പരിഗണിക്കുമെന്നാണു് എനിക്കു ഒന്നാമതായി സമർപ്പിക്കാനുള്ള പ്രധാന നിർദ്ദേശം. അങ്ങിനെ ചെയ്യുന്നതിൽ കൊടുങ്ങല്ലൂർ നിവാസികൾ എല്ലാവരും ഒരുപോലെ സന്തോഷമല്ലാതെ യാതൊരു വിധത്തിലുമുള്ള വെറുപ്പു കാണിക്കയില്ലെന്നുള്ളതു നിശ്ചയമാണ്. കൊടുങ്ങല്ലൂർ തമ്പുരാക്കന്മാർക്കാണെങ്കിൽ അതുകൊണ്ടു് വല്ല നഷ്ടമൊ, ദോഷമോ ഉണ്ടാവാൻ ഇടയുണ്ടെന്നു തോന്നുന്നില്ല. അവർ അനുഭവിച്ചുവരുന്ന അവകാശങ്ങളും ഇപ്പോൾ അവരുടെ മെയിൻറനൻസിനായി കൊടുത്തുവരുന്ന സംഖ്യയും ഒരു കുറവും വരുത്താതെ മേലിലും കൊടുത്തുകൊണ്ടിരിക്കുകയുംചെയ്യുന്നതായാൽ ജനങ്ങളുടെ ക്ഷേമത്തേയും നാട്ടിന്റെ ഗുണത്തെയും ഉദ്ദേശിച്ചു ഈ കാര്യത്തിൽ അവക്കു ഒരു വിരോധവും ഉണ്ടാവാൻ അവകാശമുണ്ടെന്നു തോന്നുന്നില്ല. അതുകൊണ്ടു് കൊച്ചിയേയും കൊടുങ്ങല്ലൂരിനെയും എല്ലാവിധത്തിലും യോജിപ്പിക്കുന്നതിനു ഗവൺമെൻറു ശ്രമിക്കണമെന്നാണു് വീണ്ടുമുള്ള എന്റെ അപേക്ഷ. അതിനു തരമില്ലാത്തപക്ഷം കൊടുങ്ങല്ലൂർ ന്യായമായി അർഹിക്കുന്ന ഓഹരികൾ കൊടുക്കുന്നതിനു ഇനിയും ഗവൺമെൻറു കാലതാമസം വരുത്തിക്കൂടാത്തതാകുന്നു. ഈ

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വിഷയകമായി സ്പെഷ്യൽ ഫിനാൻസ്സു കമ്മിറ്റി ചില ശുപാർശുകൾ ചെയ്തിട്ടുണ്ട്. ആ ശുപാർശുകൾ കൗൺസിലിന്റെ പരിചിന്തനത്തിനു വിഷയീഭവിച്ചപ്പോൾ ഒരു പടി കൂടെ കയറിനിന്നാണ് ആ ഓഹരികൾ കൊടുക്കണമെന്നു സ്ഥാപിച്ചതു്. ഈ കഴിഞ്ഞ മേടം സെഷ്യനിൽ ഞാൻ ഇതിലേക്കായി ഒരുടോക്കൺ മോഷ്ൻ അയച്ചു. അതു സംബന്ധിച്ചു ഗൗരവതരമായ വാദപ്രതിവാദങ്ങൾ നടക്കയും അവസാനം എന്റെ വാദം കൗൺസിൽ വലിയ ഭൂരിപക്ഷത്തോടെ അംഗീകരിക്കയും ചെയ്തു. മറ്റു കായ്ങ്ങളിലും കൊടുങ്ങല്ലൂരിനുവേണ്ടി ചെയ്യാവുന്നിടത്തോളം ഔദാര്യം ഗവൺമെൻറു ചെയ്യണം, കൊടുങ്ങല്ലൂരിന്റെ ഭരണം കൊച്ചിഗവൺമെൻറു നടത്തിവരുന്നതുകൊണ്ടു് ആ നാട്ടിന്റെ ഗുണത്തിലും ദോഷത്തിലും ഉത്തരവാദിത്വം ഗവൺമെൻറിനു തന്നെയാണ്. ആ നാട്ടിൽ ഗതാഗത സൌകര്യം, വൈദ്യസഹായം, വിദ്യാഭ്യാസം, ആദിയായ നല്ല ഭരണകായ്ങ്ങൾ മുറയ്ക്കു നടക്കുന്നില്ലെങ്കിൽ അതിനെക്കുറിച്ചുള്ള ചീത്തപ്പേരു് ഗവൺമെൻറിനാണെന്നു നല്ലവണ്ണം മനസ്സിലാക്കണം. അതുകൊണ്ടു ഓഹരിവകയിൽ ഒന്നും കൊടുക്കാൻ ഇല്ലെന്നു വന്നാൽ തന്നെയും——ഉണ്ടെന്നു തെളിഞ്ഞുകഴിഞ്ഞു——ഓരോ തുക മുനിസിപ്പാലിറ്റികൾക്കു Contribution നല്കുന്നതുപോലെ കൊടുത്തെങ്കിലും കൊടുങ്ങല്ലൂരിന്റെ ആവശ്യം നിറവേറ്റി സഹായിക്കണമെന്നാണ് എനിക്കുപറയുവാനുള്ള മറ്റൊരു സംഗതി.

ഇനി എന്റെ നിയോജകമണ്ഡലത്തിന്റെ വിഭാഗങ്ങളായ ചേന്ദമംഗലം വില്ലേജിനേയും എടവിലങ്ങു് വില്ലേജിനേയും പറ്റി രണ്ടുവാക്കു പറയുവാനുണ്ടു്. ഈ സ്ഥലങ്ങളിൽ ഗതാഗതമാർഗ്ഗം തീരെ ഇല്ല. ശരിയായ ശുചീകരണസൌകര്യങ്ങൾ ഒട്ടും ഇല്ല. അതിനാൽ പലവിധ കഷ്ടപ്പാടുകളും ഉണ്ടു്. ചേന്ദമംഗലം വില്ലേജിൽ അത്യാവശ്യമായ റോഡുകൾ ഉണ്ടാക്കിക്കൊടുക്കണമെന്നു കഴിഞ്ഞതവണ ഒരു പ്രമേയം കൊണ്ടുവരികയും ഗവൺമെണ്ടു അങ്ങിനെ ചെയ്യാമെന്നു സമ്മതിക്കയും ചെയ്തിരുന്നു. ഗോതുരുത്തായിൽ നിന്നും ഒരു റോഡുവെട്ടാൻ ഇത്തവണത്തെ ബഡ്ജറ്റിൽ പണം ചേർത്തിരിക്കുന്നതിൽ നിന്നു അതു ഗവൺമെണ്ടു നടപ്പിലാക്കാൻ ഉദ്ദേശിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടെന്നു കരുതേണ്ടിയിരിക്കുന്നു. ഈ സംഗതിയിൽ ഒരു വാദമുഖവിച്ചിരിക്കുന്നതായി ഞാൻ അറിയുന്നുണ്ടു്. സ്ഥലമെടുക്കുന്ന കായ്ത്തിൽ ഗവൺമെണ്ടിനു് ചില ചെലവുകളും ലഭിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടാകണം. ചേന്ദമംഗലം വില്ലേജിലുള്ള വസ്തുക്കളെല്ലാം പാലിയം ജന്മിയുടെ വകയായിട്ടാണിരിക്കുന്നതു്. എന്നാൽ ഗവൺമെണ്ടു് ഇപ്പോൾ റോഡാവശ്യത്തിനായി എടുക്കാൻ ഉദ്ദേശിച്ചിരിക്കുന്ന സ്ഥലങ്ങൾ കൈവശം വെച്ചു പ്രയത്നിച്ചുകൊണ്ടിരിക്കുന്നതു് അവിടത്തെ കുടിയാന്മാരാണ്. ഈ സ്ഥലത്തു

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ന്ന് ഗവമ്മെണ്ടു് വില ജനങ്ങൾക്കായിരിക്കും കൊടുക്കുന്നതു്. അതിനാൽ കൂടിയാനവന്മാർക്കു് യാതൊരു ആളായവും കിട്ടുകയില്ലെന്നു സങ്കടമാണു് ഈ പരാതിക്കു കാരണം. ഈ റോഡു മെറ്റൽ ചെയ്യാൻ ഉദ്ദേശിക്കുന്നില്ലെങ്കിൽ കൂടിയാനവന്മാർക്കുതന്നെ ഇതു ചെയ്യാൻ സാധിക്കുമെന്നു അവർ പറയുന്നു. അവരുടെ കൈവശമിരിക്കുന്ന ഭൂമി പൊതുജനങ്ങളുടെ ഗതാഗതത്തിനായി വിട്ടുകൊടുക്കുവാൻ അവർക്കു് സാധിക്കുമെന്നും അവർ പറയുന്നു. ഈ സംഗതി ഗവമ്മെണ്ടു് ഗാഢമായി ചിന്തിക്കുമെന്നും കൂടിയാനവന്മാരുടെ സങ്കടം കായ്മായി ഗണിക്കുമെന്നും ഞാൻ വിശ്വസിക്കുന്നു. ഈ രണ്ടു വില്ലേജുകളിലും പഞ്ചായത്തുകൾ ഉണ്ടെന്നല്ലാതെ അതുകൊണ്ടുള്ള ഗുണഗണങ്ങളനുഭവിക്കാൻ കൊടുങ്ങല്ലൂർ പഞ്ചായത്തുകളെപ്പോലെ ഈ വില്ലേജുകാർക്കും സൌകര്യമുണ്ടാകുന്നില്ലെന്നാണു് ആ നാട്ടുകാർ പരാതി പറയുന്നതു്. ഈ വിഷയത്തിലും ഗവമ്മെണ്ടു് ശ്രദ്ധ പതിക്കുമെന്നു ഞാൻ വിശ്വസിക്കുന്നു.

ഇപ്പോൾ നാളികേരത്തിനും കയറിനും എല്ലാം വില വളരെ കുറഞ്ഞിരിക്കുന്നു. മഹായുദ്ധകാലത്തേക്കാൾ വില വളരെ കുറഞ്ഞുപോയതുകൊണ്ടു് നാട്ടിൽ പരക്കെ ക്ഷാമം തുടങ്ങിയിട്ടുണ്ടു്. അതിന്റെ സന്താനങ്ങളായി ഇനി എന്തെല്ലാം ആപത്തുകളും ഭയങ്കര സംഭവങ്ങളുമാണു് ഉണ്ടാകാൻ പോകുന്നതെന്നു് നിണ്ണയിക്കാൻ തരമില്ല. അതിനാൽ ഗവമ്മെണ്ടു് ജനങ്ങളുമായി ആലോചിച്ചു് ഗവമ്മെണ്ടിനു് ഈ വിഷയത്തിൽ എന്തെല്ലാം ചെയ്യുവാൻ കഴിയുമോ അതെല്ലാം ഉടനെ പ്രവർത്തിയിൽ കൊണ്ടുവരണം.

ഡപ്യൂട്ടി പ്രസിഡെണ്ടു്.—സമയം കഴിഞ്ഞു.

മിസ്റ്റർ എ. കെ. കുഞ്ഞുമൊയ്തീൻ.—നാലഞ്ചു മിനിട്ടുകൂടി അനുവദിച്ചു തരണം.

ഡപ്യൂട്ടി പ്രസിഡെണ്ടു്.—കട്മോഷൻ ആലോചനക്കെടുക്കുമ്പോൾ ഇനി പറയുവാനുള്ളതു് പറയാമല്ലൊ.

മിസ്റ്റർ എ. കെ. കുഞ്ഞുമൊയ്തീൻ. സമയമനുവദിക്കാത്തതുകൊണ്ടു ഞാൻ ഈ പ്രസംഗം അവസാനിപ്പിക്കുന്നു.

മിസ്റ്റർ പി. സി. ചാഞ്ചൻ.—കരുണാനിധിയായ നമ്മുടെ മഹാരാജാവുതിരുമനസ്സുകൊണ്ടു് സർവ്വോൽക്കർഷേണ വർത്തിക്കട്ടെ.

ഈ അടങ്കൽ യോഗത്തിൽവെച്ചു് ബഹുമാനപ്പെട്ട ഗവമ്മെണ്ടിന്റെ ഭരണത്തെക്കുറിച്ചു് സാമാന്യമായി ഗുണദോഷവിചാരം ചെയ്യുവാൻ സാധിച്ചതിൽ ഞാൻ സന്തോഷിക്കുന്നു.

നമ്മുടെ മുമ്പിൽ ഇരിക്കുന്ന ആയവ്യയപ്പട്ടികയെക്കുറിച്ചു് വിചിന്തനം ചെയ്യുമ്പോൾ ഗവമ്മെണ്ടിനെ അനുമോദിക്കേണ്ടിയിരിക്കുന്നു. ആയാധികമായ ഒരു അടങ്കൽ ഏർപ്പെടുത്തുന്നതു സ്തുത്യർഹമല്ലാതെ വരുവാൻ തരമില്ല. വേണ്ടെടത്തു ചിലവു ചെയ്യേണ്ടകായ്ത്തിൽ

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അനാഥരുമായ പിള്ളമാർക്കു പിടിച്ചിട്ടില്ല. അതുകൊണ്ടാണ് ഞാൻ ഈ അടങ്ങലിനെ ശ്ലാഘിക്കുന്നതു്. അധഃകൃതരെ ഉയർത്തുന്ന വിഷയത്തിൽ വരുന്ന കൊല്ലത്തെ സംഖ്യ ഒരു ലക്ഷത്തിലധികം ഉറുപ്പികയാണു്. ഇതു കേൾക്കുമ്പോൾ സാമാന്യക്കാർ പരിഭ്രമിച്ചു പോകും. അധഃകൃതരെ ഉന്നമിപ്പിക്കുവാൻ ഇവിടെ ഒരു ഡിപ്പാർട്ട്മെണ്ടു് തുടങ്ങീട്ടുണ്ടല്ലൊ. ടി ഡിപ്പാർട്ട്മെണ്ടുവക ചിലവു തന്നാണ്ടിൽ ൫ ൦ ,൦ ൦ ൦ രൂപാ കൂടിയായിട്ടില്ല. വിദ്യാഭ്യാസ ഡിപ്പാർട്ട്മെണ്ടിൽ കൊള്ളാക്കേണ്ട വലിയതുകയും സംരക്ഷണ ഡിപ്പാർട്ട്മെണ്ടിന്റെ മേൽ ഏറിയതുകൊണ്ടാണ് അവിടെ അത്രവലിയ ഒരു സംഖ്യ കാണപ്പെടുന്നതു് (*hear, hear*) വിദ്യാഭ്യാസ വിഷയത്തിൽ മറു സമുദായങ്ങൾക്കുവേണ്ടിയും ബഹുമാനപ്പെട്ട ഗവർമ്മെണ്ടു് ചിലവു ചെയ്യുന്നുണ്ടല്ലൊ!. ഗവർമ്മെണ്ടു് അധഃകൃതർക്കു വിദ്യാഭ്യാസ വിഷയത്തിൽ ചെയ്യുന്ന ഓരോ സഹായങ്ങളേയും ഞാൻ നന്ദിപൂർവ്വം ഓർക്കുന്നു. അവയെപ്പറ്റിയല്ല, അടങ്ങലിൽ സംഖ്യ കൊള്ളിച്ചിരിക്കുന്ന രീതിയെപ്പറ്റിയാണ് എനിക്കു ഇതും പറയേണ്ടിവന്നതു്.

അധഃകൃതരെ ഉന്നമിപ്പിക്കുന്ന വിഷയത്തിൽ ദിവാൻജി അവർകൾ ചെയ്യുന്ന ശ്ലാഘനീയങ്ങളായ പരിശ്രമങ്ങളേയും കറിച്ചു ഓർമ്മിക്കുവാൻ ഈ സന്ദർഭത്തെ സന്തോഷത്തോടുകൂടി ഞാൻ വിനയോർമ്മിക്കുന്നു.

ദയാലുവും കർമ്മകുശലനുമായ അധഃകൃത സംരക്ഷകൻ അവർകളുടേയും ഈ വിഷയത്തിൽ അദ്ദേഹത്തെ സഹായിച്ചുകൊണ്ടിരിക്കുന്ന അദ്ദേഹത്തിന്റെ സിൽബന്ധികളുടേയും പരിപാടികളും പരിശ്രമങ്ങളും മറു സംസ്ഥാനങ്ങൾക്കുപോലും അനുകരണീയങ്ങളാണെന്നു് സംശയം കൂടാതെ പറയാം.

റവന്യൂ ഡിപ്പാർട്ട്മെണ്ടിന്റെ അനുകൂലം അധഃകൃതരിൽ ദിവസന്തോറും വർദ്ധിച്ചുവരുന്നുണ്ടു്. ബഹുമാനപ്പെട്ട റവന്യൂ മെമ്പർ പ്രസ്തുത സംഗതിയിൽ കൂടുതൽ ശ്രദ്ധ പതിക്കുന്നുണ്ടെന്നുള്ളതിനു് ദൃഷ്ടാന്തങ്ങൾ വളരെയുണ്ടു്. പക്ഷെ സ്ഥലങ്ങൾ പാട്ടത്തിനൊ പതിച്ചൊ കൊടുക്കുന്ന സംഗതികളിൽ അദ്ദേഹം കറെക്കൂടെ ഔദാര്യം കാണിച്ചെങ്കിലെ പാവങ്ങൾക്കു രക്ഷയുള്ളു. സ്ഥലം പതിവാണു് തൊഴിലാളികളുടെ സ്വപ്നം. ഭൂഭാഗങ്ങളെല്ലാം ജന്മികൾ പതിച്ചെടുത്തു ബാക്കിയുള്ളതു് അവർക്കു് പാൽ കൂടിക്കാനുള്ള പശുക്കൾക്കു മേയുവാനും ഇട്ടു. അധഃകൃതർ വല്ലതിക്കിലുംസ്ഥലത്തിനപേക്ഷിച്ചാൽ ഒക്കെതടവു്. മേച്ചിൽ സ്ഥലം, എ. യുടെ അതിരു്, ബീയുടെ കടവു്, ഈമാതിരി പലേസംഗതികളും പുറപ്പെടുന്നു.

നമ്മുടെ പൊന്നുതമ്പുരാനെപ്പോലെ കാരുണ്യവും ധാരാളി

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യ്വുമുള്ള അറബിക്കടൽ വച്ചുകുട്ട കടൽപ്പുറം മുഴുവനും ഈ പാവങ്ങൾക്കു് പതിച്ചു കൊടുത്താൽ എന്താണ്" ചേതമെന്നാണു് ഞാൻ ചോദിക്കുന്നതു്! നമ്മുടെ ബഹുമാനപ്പെട്ട ഗവമ്മെണ്ടിൽ കെട്ടിയിരിപ്പുണ്ടല്ലൊ! ആ സ്ഥിതിക്കു് പുറമ്പോക്കുകൾ പാവങ്ങൾക്കു കൊടുക്കരുതോ? റവന്യൂ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെണ്ടിൽ നിന്നു ഉള്ളതുറന്നു സഹായിക്കാമെന്നു വെച്ചിരുന്നെങ്കിൽ ഇപ്പോഴും ഒരു നൂറു ഏക്കർ സ്ഥലമെങ്കിലും പാവങ്ങളെപാട്ടത്തിനേല്പിക്കാമായിരുന്നു. ഉദാരനും ദയാലുവുമായ റവന്യൂ മേലദ്ധ്യക്ഷന്റെ ശ്രദ്ധ ഈ വിഷയത്തിൽ കൂടുതലായി പതിയുമെന്നു് ഞാൻ വിശ്വസിക്കുന്നു. റവന്യൂ മേലദ്ധ്യക്ഷനു സ്വന്തനിലയിലും ബഹുമാനപ്പെട്ട ഗവമ്മെണ്ടിന്റെ പേരിലും സമ്പാദിക്കാവുന്ന വലുതായ പുണ്യത്തെ അദ്ദേഹത്തിനു സമാജ്ജിക്കുവാൻ സംഗതിവരട്ടെ!!

പോലീസിന്റെ ശ്രദ്ധ അധഃകൃത മർദ്ദനത്തിൽ ഏറെക്കുറെ പതിയുന്നതു ആശ്വാസകരമാണു്.

കൃഷിഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെണ്ടിലെ ശിപായികളായും മറ്റും അധഃകൃതരെ തന്നെ നിയമിക്കുവാൻ വിരോധമില്ലായിരുന്നു. കൃഷിഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെണ്ടിൽ കഴിയുന്നതും കൃഷിക്കാരെ നിയമിക്കുന്നതിൽ ഔചിത്യവുമുണ്ടു്.

കോടതികളിൽ ഒന്നിലും ഹാജരിലും പുലയസ്സിപായികളെ കാണുന്നില്ല. പോലീസിൽ ഒരേ ഒരു അധഃകൃതനെ മാത്രമെ കാണപ്പെടുന്നുള്ളു. എക്സൈസിൽ അധഃകൃതനേ നാസ്തി. ജനറലാസ്പത്രിയിൽ മേൽപ്പോടിക്കു പുറമെ അധഃകൃത ജീവനക്കാരനില്ല. കാട്ടിലെ നിയമനങ്ങളിലെങ്കിലും കൈവിരൽമടക്കിത്തീർക്കുവാൻ പാടുള്ളതിലധികം അധഃകൃതനെ നിയമിക്കേണ്ടതാണു്.

ഇനി എനിക്കൊന്നു പറയാനുള്ളതു് ഞാൻ താമസിക്കുന്ന മുളവുകാടു ദേശത്തെപ്പറ്റിയാണു്. ഒരസ്സൽ കൊല്ലത്തിനു മുമ്പു് റസിഡെണ്ടിനു (ഇന്നു പൊളിറ്റിക്കൽ ഏജൻഡു്) സവാരി ചെയ്യുവാൻവേണ്ടി വെട്ടിയ ഒരു പൊതു നിരത്തു ആ ദിക്കിലുണ്ടു്. അതിനുശേഷം നമ്മുടെ ഗവമ്മെണ്ടു ആ നിരത്തിനുവേണ്ടി ഒരു കാശുപോലും ചിലവു ചെയ്തിട്ടില്ലെന്നുവേണം പറയുവാൻ. മുളവുകാടു്, എറണാകുളം പട്ടണത്തിന്റെ തലസ്ഥാനമാണെന്നാണു തോന്നുന്നതു്. ബാഹ്യാഡംബരത്തിനുകുറെ ശ്രദ്ധിയ്ക്കുക കൂടുമെന്നല്ലാതെ യാതൊരു ഗുണവും ആ പേരുകൊണ്ടു മുളവുകാടിനു ഉണ്ടായിട്ടില്ല. കൃഷി സൂപ്രണ്ടെണ്ടു് അദ്ദേഹത്തിന്റെ ജന്മദിനമായ നാളത്തെ ഉദ്യോഗകാലത്തിനിടക്കു് ഇതേവരെ ആ സ്ഥലം കണ്ടിട്ടുണ്ടൊയെന്നു സംശയമാണു്. ഫോർട്ടുകൊച്ചിനീളം വീതിയുള്ള ആസ്ഥലത്തു ഒരിടത്താണുള്ളതു്. ഇക്കൊല്ലംപുതുതായി ഒരു കടത്തു കൂടി കൂടുതലായി ഉണ്ടായിട്ടുണ്ടു്. ഈ സ്ഥലത്തു നിന്നും ഏതാണ്ടു ,000 രൂപായാണു് വരവുള്ളതു്. ഇതിൽ ഒരുനൂറു രൂപാ എങ്കിലും ആ സ്ഥലനിവാസികളുടെ ജീവിതസൌകര്യത്തിനു വേണ്ടി

ചലവുചെയ്തിരുന്ന എങ്കിൽ കൊള്ളാമായിരുന്നു. ഇപ്പോൾ അവിടെയുള്ള കുട്ടികൾ സ്കൂളിൽപോകുന്നതും മാസ്റ്റർമാർ പഠിപ്പിക്കുന്നതും ഏറ്റവുമധികം നോക്കിയിട്ടാണു്. അടുത്ത കാലത്തുതന്നെ സ്കൂളിലേക്കുപോയ ഒരു കുട്ടി ഇറക്കത്തിൽപെട്ടു് ഒഴുകിപ്പോയി. ഈ ഒഴുക്കു് നേരെ അഴിമുഖത്തെയ്ക്കാണു്. കുട്ടി വെള്ളത്തിലിറങ്ങിയപ്പോൾ ഒഴുക്കിൽപെട്ടതു ഒരാൾ കണ്ടതിനാൽ കുട്ടി രക്ഷപ്പെട്ടു എന്നു പറയാം. അല്ലെങ്കിൽ ആ കുട്ടിയുടെ കഥ കഴിയുമായിരുന്നു. മേടം സമ്മേളനത്തിൽ ഞാൻ ഒരു ചോദ്യം കൊണ്ടുവന്നപ്പോൾ ബഡ്ഡറു തയാറാക്കുമ്പോൾ അതിനെപ്പറ്റി ആലോചിക്കാമെന്നു പറഞ്ഞിരുന്നു. ബഡ്ഡറു തയാറാക്കിവെളിക്കുവന്നപ്പോൾ മുളവുകാടിന്റെ കാര്യത്തെപ്പറ്റി ഒരാലോചനയും ഇല്ലെന്നു കാണുന്നു. അതുകൊണ്ടു് അവിടത്തെ നിരത്തിന്റെ കാര്യത്തിൽ ഗവൺമെന്റു ദയവായി ശ്രദ്ധപതിക്കണമെന്നു് ഞാൻ അപേക്ഷിക്കുന്നു.

ചേരാനെല്ലൂർ ഒരു പഞ്ചായത്തും അതിനായി ഒരു കോടതിയുമൊക്കെ ഉണ്ടെന്നു കേട്ടിട്ടുണ്ടു്. മുളവുകാട്ടിൽനിന്നു ഒന്നരണ്ടു മെമ്പർമാരും ഉണ്ടു്. ഈ മെംബർമാർ കോടതി കണ്ടിട്ടുണ്ടോ എന്നതന്നെ സംശയം. ഈ പഞ്ചായത്തിലേക്കു അനുവദിക്കുന്ന പണം എന്തുചെയ്യുന്നുവെന്നതിനു ഒരു പിടിയുമില്ല. മുളവുകാട്ടിനു ഈ പഞ്ചായത്തുകൊണ്ടു് ഒരു ഗുണവുമില്ല. ഈ പഞ്ചായത്തു അത്തായിൽ മുളവുകാടു ഉണ്ടോ എന്നതന്നെ സംശയമാണു്. അവർ മുളവുകാട്ടിനുവേണ്ടി ഒന്നും ചെയ്തിട്ടില്ല. അതിനാൽ കൃഷിസൂപ്പണ്ടു് അവർകൂടെ ഞങ്ങളുടെ കുട്ടികളെ വെള്ളത്തിൽ ഒഴുക്കാതെ സ്കൂളിൽ അയപ്പാൻ വല്ല ഉപായവും ഉണ്ടെങ്കിൽ അപ്രകാരം പ്രവർത്തിക്കാൻ ശ്രദ്ധിക്കണമെന്നു ഞാൻ അപേക്ഷിക്കുന്നു.

രണ്ടാം കൗൺസിലിന്റെ അവസാനത്തെ അടങ്ങൽ യോഗത്തിൽ വെച്ചു ഒരിക്കൽകൂടി ഗവൺമെൻറിനു നന്ദിപറഞ്ഞുകൊണ്ടു വിരമിക്കുന്നു.

പ്രജാവത്സലനായ നമ്മുടെ മഹാരാജാവു തിരുമനസ്സുകൊണ്ടു് ചിരകാലം വാണരുളുമാറാകട്ടെ.

**Mr. A. L. Antony.**—This year also we have been presented with a surplus budget as in the previous years.

**Deputy President.**—A little louder. These reporters have to take it down in Shorthand and they must hear what you say.

**Mr. A. L. Antony.**—I am unwell, Sir. Yesterday I was suffering from cold.

**Deputy President.**—The difficulty is that all these will not find a place in the Proceedings and there is no use of blaming the Shorthand Reporters.

**Dr. A. G. Menon.**—As he goes on he might recover, Sir.

**Mr. A. L. Antony.**—But how far is it advisable to swell

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our treasury for the purpose of the future generations after starving the present generation is the question to be considered. The advisability of hoarding money has been discussed here by several of my Hon'ble friends, and I do not think that I need reiterate them. Now when the budget was presented by the Hon'ble Member for Finance, some points struck me then and there, namely, that the net surplus to the credit of the State which stood at Rs. 41·56 lakhs at the end of 1100 rose to Rs. 93.49 lakhs at the end of 1104, not by stinting expenditure on Departments catering to the welfare of the people. When that portion was read I laughed, because how far these various Departments of the State are catering for the welfare of the people can be seen from what I am going to enumerate just now. It is about the Medical Department. In Irinjalakkuda there was an outbreak of small-pox not only in the market but also in all the houses near the temple. The Sanitary Department had not taken any measure for redress. No Medical officer was appointed. Deaths were occurring at the rate of 40 or 50 every month. The only source was to suffer like anything without any medical aid though there was the Medical Department. Happily I chanced to meet the Head of the Medical Department, and I had occasion to talk with him. Then the only reply which he gave me was that "I have supplied them with lymphs and vaccination is vigorously being conducted by the Sanitary Inspector". How people who are suffering will be relieved by vaccination, I cannnot understand. Of course it may be a remedy for prevention. But the complaint was that those who wanted to get themselves vaccinated had to go to the Sanitary Inspector. When in Ernakulam there was an outbreak of small-pox a special doctor was appointed, a special staff was appointed and medical aid was given. But in our place no special staff was given and people are to suffer themselves and die. They can only cry and cry. Even now the situation is so grave that only one or two houses by the side of the temple are left unaffected. No bus is allowed to go beyond the Court though they used to go beyond the court as well as the Anchal office. But no bus is allowed to go to the other side. The local Tahsildar has written about the seriousness of the situation and yet no catering to the welfare of the people. The Hon'ble Member takes pride in saying that we are not stinting expenditure on Departments catering to the welfare of the people. Thus the people are made to suffer not only pain but they are put to death. In this our treasury is swollen with hoards of money for the purpose of the people of the next generation.

A word about the Co-operative Department. It has been said that the Co-operative Department is another agency closely

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allied to the Agricultural Department. Agriculture in our State is closely allied to Panchayats. So the Co-operative Department is closely allied to the Panchayats also. But unfortunately this alliance is in the relationship of its working. It is worked just as the Panchayat Department also. In the Irinjalakkuda Town there is not even a single tank well maintained by the Government for the use of the public. It is also known that there are, I believe, among the non-caste Hindus thrice the number of caste-Hindus and there is already a tank constructed by the Government at the expense of 10,000 rupees last year and this year 4,000 rupees has been budgetted for it. I do not think that public money should be spent for a tank which is exclusively used by caste-Hindus. Even if a tank is to be constructed at the cost of 14,000 rupees for the benefit of the caste-Hindus, I submit Sir, that the very same facilities may be extended to the non-caste Hindus also who are about thrice in number. There is not even a single tank in the town except this Nouri Kulam. Only a sum of Rs. 800 was spent on this tank, and it is in a very bad condition. It is better to fill it up than to keep it, so that people may not bathe in this unhealthy tank and contract disease. If that is the town which is going to be made a Municipality and to be a prosperous town—where the Government have not given a single tank for bathing—it is rather a pity that the Finance Member has said that the Government are not stinting expenditure but are catering to the wants of the people. This was one of the chief things which struck me most, and more about this I shall say in my cut motions. Because it is not only a sorrow but really a grievance and it is a grievance which will tell upon the Government for not having done their best for promoting the welfare of the people. This is not the policy to be adopted by the Government. It is no use saying that we are catering to the needs of the people and that we are progressing like anything in paper. The policy of our Government appears to be like that of a Brahmin Hundi merchant who ties his purse. I will have occasions also to bring to the notice of the Government many other items under which the people are suffering and how our Government will have to say on paper these things and how far it is true. With these few remarks I stop. I do not propose to take much of the valuable time of the House.

മിസ്റ്റർ ടി. കെ. നായർ —രണ്ടാമത്തെ കൌൺസിലിന്റെ രണ്ടു കൊല്ലക്കാലവും കഴിഞ്ഞു. ഈ രണ്ടുകൊല്ലക്കാലത്തിനകത്ത് വെച്ച് എനിക്കു മനസ്സിലായിട്ടുള്ളത് ഗവൺമെണ്ടിനെക്കൊണ്ട് എന്തെങ്കിലും കാര്യം സാധിക്കണമെങ്കിൽ ഈ കൌൺസിൽ മുഖേന ലഹളകൂട്ടിയിട്ടോ ബഹളത്തിൽ കൂടെ കട്ട് മോഷൻ കൊണ്ടു

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വന്നിട്ടൊ ന്നും ആവുകയില്ലെന്നാണ്. അതുകൊണ്ടു പ്രയപടി ഇവിടെവീണ്ടുംകണ്ടുക്ഷോഭംചെയ്തു വീട്ടിൽചെന്നിട്ട് ഡാക്ടർമാക്കു പണം കൊടുക്കാൻ ഞാൻ വിചാരിക്കുന്നില്ല. നാട്ടുകാരുടെ പ്രതിനിധികളായി ഇവിടെ വന്നിട്ടുള്ള ആളുകൾക്ക് എന്തെങ്കിലും ആവശ്യം സാധിക്കാനുണ്ടെങ്കിൽ ഇവിടെ വന്നു പറയാം, ഞങ്ങൾ കേൾക്കാം, ഞങ്ങൾക്കു തോന്നുന്നതു ചെയ്തുകൊള്ളാം എന്ന ഒരു മനോഭാവമാണ് ശവമെമ്പെണ്ടിനുള്ളതെന്ന് നല്ലവണ്ണം ബോദ്ധ്യപ്പെട്ടു കഴിഞ്ഞിട്ടുണ്ട്. അങ്ങിനെ വല്ലതും പറയാമെന്നുവച്ചാൽതന്നെയും കേൾക്കാൻ ഇവിടെ ആളില്ല. ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെണ്ടു് മേലദ്ധ്യക്ഷന്മാർ ഇവിടെ ഉണ്ടെങ്കിലും അവരുടെ എല്ലാം തലവൻ ദിവാൻ ആയതുകൊണ്ട് ഞങ്ങളുടെ അപേക്ഷകൾ കേൾക്കുവാൻ ക്ലിപ്തമായ ഇപ്പോൾ ഇവിടെ ആളില്ലാത്തതാണ് അധികം കഷ്ടം. ദിവാൻജി കാലത്തു കുറെനേരം വന്നു ഇരിക്കും. ഉച്ചക്കു ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെണ്ടിനെയും എല്പിച്ചുകൊണ്ടു് അദ്ദേഹം പൊയ്ക്കളയുന്നതു് ഒരു കൌൺസിലിന്റെ ഒരു പതിവായിതീർന്നിരിക്കുന്നു. ആ സ്ഥിതിക്കു ഞങ്ങൾ ഇപ്പോൾ അപേക്ഷിച്ചിട്ടും കാര്യമില്ല. എങ്കിലും ഈ കൌൺസിലിന്റെ ജീവിതദശയിൽ ഈ അവസരം അവസാനത്തെതായതിനാൽ അപേക്ഷിക്കാതെ നിവൃത്തിയുമില്ല. അതുകൊണ്ടു ഓരോ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെണ്ടിന്റെയും മേലദ്ധ്യക്ഷന്മാരോടു എന്റെ നിയോജകമണ്ഡലത്തിനു അത്യാവശ്യമായ ചില കാര്യങ്ങൾ പ്രത്യേകം പ്രത്യേകമായി പറഞ്ഞുകൊള്ളാം. അവർക്കു ദയവുണ്ടായി ശ്രദ്ധവച്ചു കേട്ടാൽകൊള്ളാം. ഇവിടെ പറയാനല്ലെ തരമുള്ളു? അതുകൾ ചെയ്തുകൊടുക്കാൻ നിവൃത്തിയുണ്ടെങ്കിൽ ചെയ്തുകൊടുത്താൽ തരക്കേടില്ലെന്നു എന്റെ നിയോജകമണ്ഡലത്തിന്റെ പ്രതിനിധി എന്ന നിലയിൽ ഞാൻ അപേക്ഷിക്കുന്നു. ഒന്നാമതായി പബ്ലിക്ക് വർക്സ് ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെണ്ടു് അദ്ധ്യക്ഷനോടാണ് അപേക്ഷ.—ആപേക്ഷയുള്ളതല്ലാതെ നടത്താൻ പറയാനുള്ളതല്ല ഈ കൌൺസിൽ എന്നു് വീണ്ടും പറയാൻ ഞാൻ പ്രേരിതനാകുന്നു—വളരെ കാലമായി ഗതാഗതത്തിനു സൌകര്യമില്ലാതെ കിടന്ന എളനാട്ടുക്കു ഒരു റോഡു അനുവദിച്ചു. ഈ ഇടവത്തിൽ പണി തുടങ്ങി. ൪,൦൦൦ രൂപാ അടുത്ത കൊല്ലത്തിൽ ബഡ്ജറ്റിൽ ചേർത്തിട്ടുണ്ടു് ഈ റോഡു് ഈ രാജ്യത്തിലെ ജനങ്ങൾക്കു അത്യാവശ്യമായ ഗതാഗതത്തിനു വേണ്ടിയാണ്. അതിനു നാലഞ്ചു കൊല്ലമായി തുടരെത്തുടരെ അപേക്ഷയും ഉണ്ടായിരുന്നു. ഒരുവിധം പണി തുടങ്ങി. എന്നാൽ നെല്ലിയാമ്പതി റോഡിനു കഴിഞ്ഞകൊല്ലം അനുവദിച്ചിരുന്ന രൂപാ പോരാതെ പണി ഉടനെ ചെയ്തു തീർക്കാൻവേണ്ടി നലക്ഷം രൂപാ സപ്ലിമെൻററി ഗ്രാൻറായി കൊണ്ടുവന്നു അനുവദിപ്പിച്ചു. യൂറോപ്യന്മാർ താമസിക്കുന്ന സ്ഥലമാകയാൽ ആ റോഡു് അടിയന്തിരമായി സ്വന്തം പ്രജകൾക്കു ഗതാഗതത്തിനു

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ള്ള റോഡ്" അടിയന്തിരമല്ല. ഏതായാലും വേണ്ട വാദപ്രതിവാദങ്ങൾ കഴിച്ചു ഒടുവിൽ നെല്ലിയാമ്പതിക്കു പണം അനുവദിച്ചു. ആ റോഡ്" മൂന്നു നാലു കൊല്ലംകൊണ്ടാണ്" പൂർത്തിയാക്കാൻ ആദ്യം വിചാരിച്ചിരുന്നതു". അതുപോലെ ഈ റോഡിനും കൂടുതലായി മൂന്നുലക്ഷമൊന്നും വേണ്ടിവരികയില്ല; അയ്യായിരമോ അഥവാ വേണ്ടിവന്നാൽ ₹ 0,000മോ അടുത്തകൊല്ലംതന്നെ സപ്ലിമെന്ററി ഗ്രാന്റായി കൊണ്ടുവന്നു" അനുവദിപ്പിച്ചു" ഈ റോഡ്" അടുത്തകൊല്ലംതന്നെ പൂർത്തിയാക്കാനപേക്ഷിക്കുന്നു. അവിടെയുള്ള ജനങ്ങൾക്കു അതു് ഒരു വലിയ രക്ഷയും ചെയ്തുതരുന്നവർക്കു ഒരു പുണ്യവും ആകും. അതുപോലെതന്നെ ഈ റോഡ്" പണി കഴിഞ്ഞാൽ പഴയന്നൂരിൽ നിന്നു എളനാട്ടേക്കും ഒരു റോഡുവെട്ടി ഈ റോഡിൽ സന്ധിപ്പിക്കേണ്ടതാണു്. ഇതെല്ലാം എന്റെ നിയോജകമണ്ഡലത്തിൽപെട്ടതാണ്". ചേലക്കര ഒരു റോഡു വന്നതുകൊണ്ടു് യാതൊരു തെറ്റുമില്ല. പഴയന്നൂരും എളനാട്ടുംകൂട്ടിച്ചേർക്കത്തക്കവണ്ണം ഒരു റോഡുംകൂടി വെട്ടിയാൽ അവിടെയുള്ള ജനങ്ങൾക്കു വളരെ സൌകര്യമാകും. അവിടെ അനവധി ജനങ്ങളുണ്ടു്. അവരിൽ വളരെ സംഖ്യയും സർക്കാരിലേക്കു വരവുണ്ടു്. രണ്ടാമതു് ചെറുതുരുത്തിനിന്നു പൈങ്കുളംവരെ ഒരു റോഡു കൊണ്ടുവന്നിട്ടുണ്ടു്.

തിരുവിലാമലനിന്നു കുത്താമ്പുള്ളിവരെയും റോഡുണ്ടു്. ഇപ്പോൾ ചേലക്കരനിന്നു മെതുകിലെക്കു ഒരു റോഡു വെട്ടുവാൻ ബഡ്ജറിൽ ചേർത്തിട്ടും ഉണ്ടു്. ചെറുതുരുത്തിനിന്നു തിരുവിലാമലവരെ റോഡു എത്തിക്കുവാൻ ഇനി അധികപ്രയത്നം ആവശ്യമില്ല. അങ്ങിനെചെയ്താൽ ഭാരതപ്പുഴവക്കത്തുകൂടെ നമ്മുടെ അതിർത്തിയിൽ കിഴക്കുപടിഞ്ഞാറായി ഒരു റോഡുണ്ടാകും. അതു വളരെ സൌകര്യവും ആയിരിക്കും.

ഇതിനുംപുറമെ കൊച്ചിരാജ്യത്തുനിന്നും പാലക്കാട്ടേക്കു റോഡുവഴിയായി ഒരു ബന്ധംകിട്ടുവാൻ മാർഗ്ഗമുണ്ടു്. ഭാരതപ്പുഴക്കു ഒരു പാലംകെട്ടുവാൻ വളരെ വിഷമമാണു്. അതിനേക്കാൾ എളുപ്പമായ ഒരു മാർഗ്ഗമാണു ഞാൻ പറയുന്നതു". അതു മിവാൻജി അവർകളോടും ചീഫ് എഞ്ചിനീയരോടും നേരിട്ടു പറഞ്ഞിട്ടും ഉണ്ടു്. ഇഞ്ചിനീയർ സ്ഥലം വന്നുനോക്കുകയും ചെയ്തു. ഇതു തിരുവിലാമലനിന്നു കിഴക്കോട്ടുപോകുന്ന പഞ്ചായത്തുറോഡാണു്. ഈ റോഡു" ഇപ്പോൾ ഏതാണ്ടു ബ്രിട്ടീഷു" അതിർത്തിവരെ എത്തീട്ടുണ്ടു്. പാലക്കാട്ടുനിന്നു ഒരു റോഡു" ഈ അതിർത്തിയുടെ ഒന്നരനാഴികട്ടരത്തോളം എത്തീട്ടുണ്ടു്. ഇടയിൽ ചെറിയതായി ഒരു തോടുണ്ടു്. ആയതു ബ്രിട്ടീഷിലായതുകൊണ്ടു് ഡിസ്ട്രിക്ടു ബോർഡുകാർ അതിനു പാലംകെട്ടണം. ഇവിടെനിന്നും അപേക്ഷിക്കുകയും വേണ്ടിവന്നാൽ കോൺടിബ്യൂഷൻകൊടുക്കുകയുംചെയ്താൽതീർച്ചയാ

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യും ഈ കാര്യം സാദ്ധ്യപ്പെടും. ഇതു് നമുക്കു് എത്രകണ്ടു് ഗുണപ്രദമായിട്ടുള്ളതാണെന്നു ഞാൻ പറയേണ്ടതില്ല.

തിരുവല്ലാമല പഞ്ചായത്തിൽ ഫെനാഴികറോഡു മെയിൻറെനൻസ് ചെയ്യാൻ 2,000 രൂപയാണു് അനുവദിച്ചതു്. ഫെനാഴികവഴി 2,000 രൂപാകൊണ്ടു് നേരെയാക്കിയാൽ അതുകൊണ്ടുതന്നെ നാലഞ്ചുകൊല്ലം നന്നാകുമെന്നു തെളിയിക്കേണ്ട ഭാരമില്ല. സാധാരണ വാഹനങ്ങൾ ഗതാഗതംചെയ്യുന്ന റോഡുകളാണു്. ശരിയായി മെൻറെയിൻ ചെയ്യാത്തപക്ഷം അതിൻറെ നിർമ്മാണത്തിനു ചിലവാക്കിയ രൂപാ അത്രയും നഷ്ടമായിപ്പോകുന്ന അവസ്ഥയിലാണു് അതിൻറെ നില. ആ പ്രദേശങ്ങളിൽ, ആക്കൂട്ടത്തിലും വരാൻ സംഗതിയായിട്ടുണ്ടെങ്കിൽ അവക്കെല്ലാം ആ റോഡിൻറെ ശോചനീയാവസ്ഥ മനസ്സിലായിട്ടും ഉണ്ടു്. ഗവർമ്മെണ്ടു് ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാരിൽ അവിടെ വന്നവരിൽ ചിലരുടെകൂടെയിരുന്നു ഞാൻ ഒന്നാലോചിച്ചു് ആ റോഡിൽ കൂടി പോയിട്ടുണ്ടു്. മേലധികാരികൾ ക്ഷേത്രത്തിൽ ദർശനത്തിനോ മറ്റോ വരുമ്പോൾ എൻറെ ബസ്സിൽത്തന്നെ അവരെ കയറ്റിക്കൊണ്ടുപോകാൻ ഞാൻ പ്രത്യേകം ഏർപ്പാടു ചെയ്യാറുണ്ടു്. അതിനുകാരണം ബസ്സു നല്ലവണ്ണം കുടുങ്ങും, അപ്പോൾ അവർക്കും കുറെ മനസ്സിലാകും. അതു അതറിയിക്കുന്നതിനാവേണ്ടി തന്നെയാണു്"ഞാൻ അങ്ങിനെചെയ്യിക്കുന്നതു്. ഇങ്ങിനെ, തരം കിട്ടുമ്പോഴൊക്കെയും ഗവർമ്മെണ്ടു് ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാരെ കാര്യം മനസ്സിലാക്കാൻ ഞാൻ ശ്രമിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടു്. വേണ്ടവിധം ശരിയാക്കിയാൽ കൊള്ളാം. ഇതൊക്കെ ഭാവിക്ഷയാണു്". ഇതു എൻറെ അവസാനപ്രസംഗമല്ലയാണു്. ഇനിയും അത്യാവശ്യമായിട്ടുള്ള സംഗതികൾപറയുണ്ടു്". ആ പ്രദേശത്തു ഒരു പുഴ ഉള്ളതുകൊണ്ടു് അവിടെ ജനങ്ങൾക്കു കുളിക്കാനായി ഒരു കുളവും വെട്ടിയിട്ടില്ല. പുഴ അടുത്തുള്ളതുകൊണ്ടു കുളിക്കാൻ വളരെ സൌകര്യമുണ്ടു്. ക്ഷേത്രസംബന്ധമായിട്ടൊരുണ്ടു കുളങ്ങളുണ്ടു്. അതിൽ എല്ലാ ജാതികൾക്കും പ്രവേശനമില്ലല്ലോ. തോണിക്കടവിലാണു് ജനങ്ങൾ സാധാരണ കുളിക്കാറുള്ളതു. ഇപ്പോഴത്തെ എക്സൈസ് മെംബർ ഡിസ്ട്രിക്ടു് മജിസ്ട്രേട്ടായിരുന്നകാലത്തു അവിടെ കുളിക്കുന്നതുകൊണ്ടു് അളുകൾക്കു അപകടം വരാനെളുപ്പമുണ്ടെന്നും അതു തടയേണ്ടതാണെന്നും ഒരിക്കൽ പറകയുണ്ടായി. തോണി ശക്തിയായി വരുമ്പോൾ കുളിച്ചുകൊണ്ടു നില്ക്കുന്ന ആളുകളുടെ തലയിലടിച്ചു ചത്തുപോകാം. ഇതെല്ലാം ദിവാൻജി അവർകളോടും നേരിട്ടു ബോധിപ്പിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടു്. ചീഫ് എഞ്ചിനീയരോടും പറഞ്ഞു. ഓർജികളും കൊടുത്തു. ഓർജി കിട്ടിയ ഉടനെ ചീഫ് എഞ്ചിനീയർ സ്ഥലത്തു വന്നു നോക്കി. അദ്ദേഹത്തിനു എത്രത്തോളം ചെയ്യാമോ അത്രത്തോളംതന്നെ ചെയ്തിട്ടുണ്ടെന്നാണു് എൻറെ അറിവു. ഈ ബഡ്ജറ്റിൽ ആ വകക്കു ഒന്നും ചേർത്തിട്ടില്ല. ബ

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ഡ്യൂറ കിട്ടുന്നതിനുമുന്നാലുദിവസംമുമ്പ് "The work is postponed for want of funds" എന്നൊരു ആർഡർ കിട്ടുകയുണ്ടായി. അതു കിട്ടിയതോടുകൂടി ഞങ്ങളുടെ ബുദ്ധിമുട്ടും തീർന്നു. ചീഫ് എഞ്ചിനീയർ സ്ഥലത്തു വന്നു നോക്കിയതുകൊണ്ടോ ഈ വിധം ഒരു കല്പന കിട്ടിയതുകൊണ്ടോ ജനങ്ങളുടെ കഷ്ടപ്പാടു തീരുന്നതല്ലെന്നു പ്രത്യേകം ഓർമ്മപ്പെടുത്തേണ്ടതാണു. കൂടുതൽ അയ്യായിരം രൂപ ഈ കടവിനു ചിലവാകുമെന്നു വിചാരിക്കുക. കുളിക്കാൻ ഒരു കടവു വെട്ടുന്നതിനു 9 00 0 രൂപാ ചിലവാക്കാൻ ഫണ്ടില്ലപോലും! ഇനി ഫണ്ടു എപ്പോഴെങ്കിലും ഉണ്ടാകുന്ന കാലത്തു മറക്കാതെ ചെയ്തു തന്നാൽ കൊള്ളാം. അങ്ങിനെ അപേക്ഷിക്കാനല്ലേ തരമുള്ളൂ. ഇതു ചീഫ് എഞ്ചിനീയരവർകൾ മറക്കാതെ ചെയ്തു തരുമെന്നു വിശ്വസിക്കുന്നു.

തിരുവലാമല ക്ഷേത്രത്തിനു സമീപം മലംപ്രദേശമാകയാൽ ജലക്ഷാമം മൂലമുള്ള ബുദ്ധിമുട്ട വളരെയുണ്ടു്. ഇതിനും ഒരു നിവാരണം ഉണ്ടാക്കിത്തന്നാൽ വെള്ളമെങ്കിലും കുടിച്ചു കുടിക്കാമായിരുന്നു. ചീഫ് എഞ്ചിനീയർ ഇതു സംബന്ധമായിട്ടും അവിടെ വന്നു പരിശോധിച്ചു. എന്നിട്ടും ഇതേവരെ ഒന്നും ചെയ്യുകാണുന്നില്ല. ഇവരൊക്കെ അവിടെ വന്നുപോരുന്നതു ഞങ്ങൾക്കു വളരെ സന്തോഷം തന്നെ. പക്ഷെ അതുകൊണ്ടുമാത്രം ഞങ്ങളുടെ ബുദ്ധിമുട്ടുകളും സങ്കടങ്ങളും തീരുന്നില്ലെന്നു കൂടി മനസ്സിലാക്കണം. ബഡ്ജറ വരുന്നതിനുമുമ്പു അടുത്ത ബഡ്ജറിൽ പണം അനുവദിക്കുമെന്നു നാട്ടുകാരോടു ഞാൻ സമാധാനം പറഞ്ഞിരുന്നു. ബഡ്ജറു വന്നപ്പോൾ അതൊന്നും കാണ്മാനില്ല. അതുകൊണ്ടു ഇനി ജനങ്ങളോടു എന്തു സമാധാനം പറയാൻ കൂടി നിവൃത്തിയില്ലെന്നായി. കുടിക്കാനുള്ള വെള്ളം കിട്ടാനാണു ഈ അപേക്ഷ.

സാധാരണ ചെയ്യാറുള്ളതിൽ നിന്നും ഇക്കൊല്ലത്തിൽ എന്തൊ ഒരു ഇളക്കം എന്റെ നിയോജകമണ്ഡലത്തെ സംബന്ധിച്ചു പഞ്ചായത്തു ഡിസ്ട്രിക്ട്മെണ്ടിനു ഉണ്ടായിട്ടുണ്ടു്. അതിനു ബഹുമാനപ്പെട്ട മെംബറിനു നന്ദിപറയാതെ തരമില്ല.

പിന്നെയുള്ള ഒരാക്ഷേപം പഞ്ചായത്തുറോഡുകൾ മെൻറയിൻ ചെയ്യുന്നതിനെപറ്റിയാണു". ഉള്ള റോഡുകൾ നന്നാക്കാൻ കഴിഞ്ഞില്ലെങ്കിൽ പുതുതായി റോഡുവെട്ടിയിട്ടു കാര്യമില്ലെന്നാണു ഞാൻ പറയുന്നതു്. പഴയറോഡുകൾ നന്നാക്കാൻ തയ്യാറില്ലെങ്കിൽ പുതിയ റോഡുകൾ വെട്ടുന്നതിനു ചിലവാകുന്ന പണം അനാവശ്യമായി ചിലവു ചെയ്യുകയാണു". അതും രണ്ടുകൊല്ലംകൊണ്ടു പഴയതുതിരിതന്നെ ആകും. ഇതൊക്കെ കട്മോഷനിൽ പറയാമെന്നുവെച്ചാൽ "അഗ്രിക്കൾച്ചർ ആൻറ് പഞ്ചായത്തു ഡിപ്പാർട്ട്മെൻറ് ഡിമാൻറ് അവസാനദിവസത്തെക്കാണു" എപ്പോഴും വെക്കുന്നതു. അപ്പോൾ സമയവും കിട്ടാറില്ല. അതുകൊണ്ടു പറയാനുള്ളതു

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നേരത്തെ പറഞ്ഞേയ്ക്കാം. ചില പഞ്ചായത്തിൽ ഒരു നാഴികറോഡ്" മെൻറയിൻ ചെയ്യാൻ വ — ഠ ത്രുപയെ താനുവദിക്കുന്നുള്ളു. ചിലടങ്ങളിൽ ഒരു രൂപാ മാത്രവും. ഈ കാര്യത്തിൽ വളരെ ആക്ഷേപം ഉണ്ട്". മൂന്നുകൊല്ലമായിട്ടും പഞ്ചായത്തുകോടതി കാണാത്ത മെംബർമാർ ഉണ്ട്". ആ കാര്യത്തിലും ബലമായ നിഷ്കൃഷ്ടയ്ക്കുണ്ടാകണം". ഒരു പഞ്ചായത്തിനുവേണ്ടി ഒരുകൊല്ലം ബഡ്ഡറ്റിൽ അനുവദിക്കുന്ന സംഖ്യയ്ക്കുള്ള പണി അതാതു കൊല്ലം ചെയ്തുതീർക്കാൻ നിബ്ബന്ധിക്കേണ്ടതാണ്". കുടികുടിയാസത്തിൽ ഒരുകിണർകുത്താൻ ശ്രമിക്കുന്നതിന്റെ ആനുഷംഗികത്വം എത്രമാത്രമാണെന്നാ ഓർക്കുന്നുണ്ടോ? വല്ലവരും ഈ വർഷക്കാലത്തു കിണർ കുത്തുമോ? അതും പഞ്ചായത്തുകാർ ചെയ്യുമാണ്. കുടികുടിയാകത്തിൽ കിണർ കുത്തുവാൻ ശ്രമിക്കുന്നതിന്റെ താല്പര്യം എനിക്കു മനസ്സിലാകുന്നില്ല

ഡെപ്യൂട്ടി പ്രസിഡെണ്ട്.—വെള്ളം വേനൽക്കാലത്തിൽ കാണും.

മിസ്റ്റർ ടി. കെ. നായർ,—അതെ, അതുതന്നെയാണ്" ഉദ്ദേശം. കുടികുടിയാകത്തിൽ കിണർ കുത്തി നാലോ അതിലധികമോ കോൽമാത്രം താഴ്ത്തികെട്ടി സിമൻറിട്ടുവെടിപ്പാക്കും. ചിലപ്പോൾ, ഒന്നോ, രണ്ടോ, ഇതുമാസമായാൽ കിണറ്റിൽ വെള്ളമില്ല, ഇതു വളരെ അനുഭവമുള്ള സംഗതിയാണ്". ഇങ്ങിനെയുണ്ടാകുന്ന കിണറ" വീണ്ടും വീണ്ടും കഴിക്കേണ്ടിവരുമ്പോഴത്തെ അധികചിലവു" നേരത്തെതുട്ടി കുന്നിറിയാൻ ഇവർക്കാർക്കും കഴിയുകയില്ലെന്നോ? അതുകൊണ്ടു ഈ മാതിരി ജോലികൾ നേരത്തെ ചെയ്തിക്കണം. അതിലേക്കായി അനുവദിക്കുന്ന പണം നേരത്തെ കൊടുക്കണം. വർഷത്തിനുമുമ്പെ കിണർ കഴിപ്പിക്കുവാൻ മേലാലെങ്കിലും ഏർപ്പാടുചെയ്യുവാനപേക്ഷ.

സാനിട്ടറി ഡിപ്പാർട്ട്മെൻറിനെപ്പറ്റി ഒരു സംഗതി പറയാനുണ്ടു. പഞ്ചായത്തുത്തിയിൽപെട്ട സാനിട്ടറി ഇൻസ്പെക്ടർമാരൊക്കെ ഹെൽത്ത് ആഫീസർമാരെ, പഞ്ചായത്തു മീറ്റിംഗ് ദിവസം മീറ്റിങ്ങിൽ സന്നിഹിതരായിരുന്നു ചീകരണസംബന്ധമായ ഉപദേശം പഞ്ചായത്തുകാർക്കു നല്കുന്നതിനു വേണ്ട ഔത്സുക്യം ഉണ്ടാക്കിയാൽകൊള്ളാം. പഞ്ചായത്തുകാർക്ക് സാനിട്ടറിവിക്കുണ്ടെന്നു പറയുന്നുണ്ട്". എന്നാൽ സാനിറ്റേഷനെപ്പറ്റി ഒന്നാം തരാഞ്ഞുകൂടാത്ത പഞ്ചായത്തും ഉണ്ട്". അതിനാൽ എന്റെ ഈ നിർദ്ദേശത്തെ കാര്യമായി കരുതണം.

ഡാക്ടർ എ. ജി. മേനോൻ.—ഇവരിൽ ആരെയെങ്കിലും ഒരാളെകൂടി മെമ്പറായി നോമിനേറ ചെയ്യുന്നതല്ലെ നല്ലതു?

മിസ്റ്റർ ടി. കെ. നായർ.—അങ്ങിനേയും ചെയ്യാം. അല്ലെങ്കിൽ ഞാൻ പറഞ്ഞതുപോലെ ചെയ്യാൻ ഈ രണ്ടു ഡിപ്പാർട്ട്മെണ്ടിന്റെയും മേലധികാരികൾ യോഗിച്ചാലും മതി.

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മാക്കറുകളിൽ ആടുകളെ അറുക്കുന്നകാര്യത്തിലും നല്ല ശ്ര ദ്ധ ഉണ്ടായിരിക്കേണ്ടതാണു്. ഇപ്പോൾദീനം ഉള്ളതിനെയൊക്കെ യാണു് അറുക്കുന്നതു്. മാക്കറുമുഴുവൻ സാനിറററി ഇൻസ്പെക്ടരുടെ കീഴിലാണു്. സാനിറററി ഇൻസ്പെക്ടർ പരിശോധനയിൽകൂടിച്ചെക്കു ടിശ്രദ്ധിച്ചാൽ ഈ പരാതി ഉണ്ടാകാതെകഴിച്ചുകൂട്ടാം. ഡാക്ടർമാർ തന്നെ പോകുന്നവഴിക്കു് അവിടെ ഒന്നു കയറിപരിശോധിച്ചാലും തരക്കേടില്ല, അവക്കു് അധികം സൌകര്യം ഉണ്ടാകും. നിവർത്തിയുണ്ടെങ്കിൽചെയ്യാൽകൊള്ളാം.

എന്റെ നിയോജകമണ്ഡലത്തിൽ അധികവും കൃഷിക്കാരാണു്. അവരുടെ സ്വത്തു് കന്നുകാലികൾ ആണു്. കഴിഞ്ഞകൊല്ലം മിക്കവാറും കൃഷിക്കാരുടെ കന്നുകാലികൾ ദീനംപിടിച്ചു് ചത്തുപോയി. അതുകൊണ്ടു് ഇക്കൊല്ലം പണമെടുപ്പിക്കാൻ കന്നില്ലാതെ ജനങ്ങൾ കഷ്ടപ്പെടുന്നുണ്ടു്. പക്ഷെ മൃഗങ്ങളെ ചികിത്സിക്കാൻ ഗവ ർമ്മെണ്ടു നിശ്ചയിച്ച ഒരു കൂട്ടരുണ്ടു്. അവരുടെ സഹായം ആവശ്യ മുള്ള സ്ഥലത്തില്ലെന്നുമാത്രം! വടക്കാഞ്ചേരിയിൽമാത്രമാണു് ഒരു മൃഗാശുപത്രി ഉള്ളതു്. അവിടെയുള്ള ഇൻസ്പെക്ടർ വടക്കാഞ്ചേരി യിൽതന്നെ ഇരിക്കുന്നതായാൽ തിരുവില്വാമല, പഴയന്നൂർ മുത ലായ സ്ഥലങ്ങളിൽഉള്ളവക്കു് എന്താണു് സൌകര്യം? നാട്ടുചുറ്റി സഞ്ചരിക്കുന്ന പതിവുകൂടി ഒന്നു ഇവക്കു വേണ്ടതാണു്. ഇപ്പോൾ കന്നുകാലികൾക്കു് ദീനം ഉണ്ടായാൽ ജനങ്ങൾക്കു് ഒരു ഉപദേശം കൊടുക്കാൻകൂടി ഇവരെക്കൊണ്ടു് ഉപകരിക്കുന്നില്ല. അങ്ങിനെ ചെയ്യാത്തതുകൊണ്ടു് തെറ്റല്ലപറയുന്നതു്. തെറ്റു ഉണ്ടായാലും പറഞ്ഞുകൂടെല്ലൊ? അതിനാൽ മേലാലെങ്കിലും എപ്പോഴും ആശുപത്രിയിൽ ഇരിക്കാതെ ചിലപ്പോഴെല്ലാം ജനോപകാരത്തിനുവേണ്ടി ഒന്നു നാട്ടുചുറ്റി ജനങ്ങൾക്കു് ആവശ്യമായ ഉപദേശങ്ങൾ കൊടുക്കാൻ ഏർപ്പാടുചെയ്യാൽകൊള്ളാം. അതിനു പ്രത്യേകിച്ചു ദിവസങ്ങൾ നിശ്ചയിക്കണം. ആഴ്ചയിൽ ഇത്രദിവസം ആശുപത്രിയിലും ഇന്നയിന്നദിവസം സർക്കീട്ടിൽ ഓരോസ്ഥലത്തെല്ലമെന്നും പ്രത്യേകം ഒരുനിബന്ധനയുണ്ടാക്കേണ്ടതാണു്. അതു്നാട്ടുകാർക്കു് വലിയ ഉപകാരമായിരിക്കും. ഇപ്പോഴത്തെ നിലയ്ക്കു പഴയന്നൂർനിന്നും ഒരു മൃഗത്തിനെകൊണ്ടു് വടക്കാഞ്ചേരിയിൽ ചെന്നു ചികിത്സിക്കാൽ വിഷമം ഒട്ടുമില്ലെ? ദീനം പിടിച്ച ഒരാടിനേയുംകൊണ്ടു് വടക്കാഞ്ചേരിയിൽചെന്നു ചികിത്സിപ്പിച്ചു അതിനു് സുഖമാകുമ്പോഴെക്കും അതിന്റെ തീറ്റി ചിലവിനും, കൂടെയുണ്ടായിരുന്ന ആളുടെ ചിലവിനും കൂടി ആടിന്റെ വിലയേക്കാൾ അധികം ചിലവാകും. ഈ വിധം ചികിത്സക്കു ആരെങ്കിലും ശ്രമിക്കുമൊ? അതുകൊണ്ടു് ഇതിൽ പ്രത്യേകമൊന്നു ദൃഷ്ടിപതിച്ചാൽ കൊള്ളാം. പ്രത്യേകിച്ചും പഴയന്നൂർ ഒരു വെറ്റിനറി ആശുപത്രി വെച്ചുകിട്ടണമെന്നുഅപേക്ഷയുണ്ടു്.

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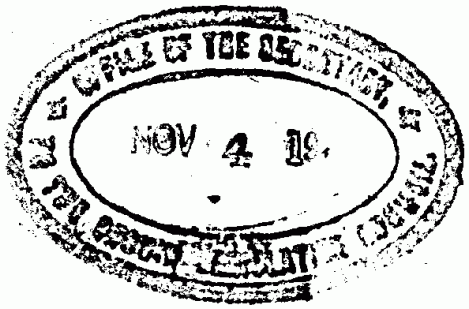
ഇതൊക്കെ സാധിച്ചതരുമെന്നുള്ളതുകൊണ്ടല്ല പറയുന്നതു്. അതിനു് ഫണ്ടു് ഉണ്ടാകയില്ലെന്നു് എനിക്കറിയാം! ഉൾനാടുകളിലെ ആവശ്യങ്ങൾക്കു് എപ്പോഴും ഫണ്ടില്ലല്ലൊ! എന്നാലും ഒരപേക്ഷ കൂടിനാകൊള്ളട്ടെ. ഫണ്ടു് ഉണ്ടാകുന്നകാലത്തെങ്കിലും വെച്ചതന്നെങ്കിലൊ? ഇപ്പോൾ ഞാൻ ചെയ്യേണ്ട കൃത്യം അവസാനമായി നിർവഹിക്കുന്നു. ഇനി ആരെങ്കിലും വരുമെങ്കിൽ അവർ മുഴുവനാക്കട്ടെ. സമയമില്ലാത്തതിനാൽ ഇനി പറയുവാനുള്ളതിന്നു് ഇപ്പോൾ തരമില്ലാതെയായി. ഇനിയും പല അപേക്ഷക്കും ഉണ്ടായിരുന്നു; നിവൃത്തിയില്ലല്ലൊ.

**Deputy President.**—The Official Members would like to go a little early.

**Dr. A. G. Menon.**—We have no objection, Sir.

*The House rose for the day at 4 p. m.*

T. K. KRISHNA MENON,
Secretary to the Council.

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